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2. If a person orders his paper discontinued, he must pay all arrearages, or the publisher may continue to send it until payment is made, and collect the whole amount, whether the paper is taken from the office or not.

3. The courts have decided that refusing to take NEWSpapers or PERIODICALS from the Postoffice, or removing and leaving them uncalled for, is prima facie evidence of intentional fraud.

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RUSSELL ERRETT, Editor.

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The Pittsburgh Commercial.

VOL. X.--NO. 24. WEEKLY EDITION. APRIL 19, 1873.

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RUSSELL ERRETT, Editor.

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FARM, GARDEN AND HOUSEHOLD.

PLANTING THE KITCHEN GARDEN.

The *Canada Farmer* gives these hints and directions on the subject of preparation for planting the kitchen garden:

The beds having been laid out and the walks made, the next step will be to prepare the ground for planting. We fear that just at this point the most serious mistakes are made—mistakes that injuriously affect the result for the whole season. It is spring. The season is short. There is a great deal to be done. Work is pressing on every hand, and, in consequence the preparation of the kitchen garden is not thoroughly done. In the first place, the ground will need to be manured with a liberal hand, for if it be not rich, very rich, the vegetables will grow slowly, and hence be tough and obnoxious; and they will grow small, and therefore not possess their natural flavor. But all manures are not suitable for this purpose. The products of the barn-yard need to undergo a course of preparation before they are fit to be applied to the garden. Used in the coarse and crude condition in which they come from the yard they will induce usually a coarse growth, and impart a rank flavor to the crops.

The first step, then, will be to have well-prepared and thoroughly decomposed manure. In order to secure a supply, attention should be given to this matter during the previous summer. The material of the barn-yard should be drawn out to some convenient place, in sufficient quantity to give the whole garden a liberal dressing, and thrown into a heap. Adjoining this there should be another heap, made up of sods from some old pasture field, or the paring of fence corners, and, if convenient, the scrapings from some pond hole in the bush lot. When the manure heap begins to heat it should be forked over, thoroughly shaking it out and building it up in a regular form. When the heap that will now be formed is about a foot high, throw over its surface a few inches of the soil, sods and muck from the adjoining pile. In this way stack up the entire pile in alternate layers of about a foot in thickness of barnyard manure with a few inches of sods and soil, covering it, when finished, with six or eight inches of the soil. This heap may now remain undisturbed for a while, but should be cut down and thoroughly commingled before it is spread over the garden beds. Prepared in this way, the manure will have absorbed the concentrated liquid portions, and the whole will have become changed into that condition in which it is best adapted to support vegetable life, and impart to it a quick growth combined with a fine texture.

Having provided the material for enriching the garden, we are now ready to work up the soil. In small gardens this will be done with a spade, or better yet, with a fork, which, as it enters the ground more easily than a spade, and the soil is pulverized better by striking it with the back of the fork, when turned over, than is possible with the spade.

Those who cultivate on a large scale for the supply of public institutions or for market will use the plow. But the work must be thoroughly done. The subsoil should be well broken up by the subsoil plow being made to follow the common plow in the bottom of the furrow, running it as deep as it is possible to make it work. The ground should then be cross-plowed, still using also the subsoil plow, so that the soil may be deeply and thoroughly broken up.

LESS LAND AND BETTER TILLAGE.

Joseph Harris, formerly editor of the *Genesee Farmer* and the author of "Walks and Talks" in the *American Agriculturist*, gives his ideas of improved farming as follows: "The present plan of conducted agriculture does not necessarily imply the production of any more grain of any kind that we sell than we raise at present. I would simply seek to increase the yield of this per acre, etc. I would raise thirty bushels of wheat per acre every third year, instead of ten bushels every year. If we expect to raise a large crop of wheat we must labor in order to produce the thirty bushels of wheat once in three years, instead of ten bushels every year, no more produce of any kind would be taken off.

But my plan does not contemplate such a result. On my own farm I seldom summer fallow, and never plow under clover. I think I can enrich the farm more much by feeding the clover to animals and returning the manure to the land. The animals do not take out more than from 10 to 20 per cent. of the most valuable elements of plant food from the clover. And so my plan, while it produces as much and no more grain to sell, adds greatly to the fertility of the farm, and gives an increased production of beef, butter, mutton, wool, cheese and pork.

MELON CULTURE.

The best soil, says the *Rural Messenger*, is that which admits of ready drainage. Watery as the fruit is, it does not require much rain to produce it. In fact, the vines flourish and bear even in a bank of sand. We would then select the highest piece of ground available—gravel and loam preferred—and enrich it well using a plenty of well-rotted manure to each hill. Digging holes of sufficient size, and depositing the manure in them during the winter, is doubtless the best way to prepare for it; but if this has not already been done, we must resort to some other plan. We would still make an excavation and manure liberally, with a view of holding moisture in case of drought. Much depends on giving the plants a vigorous start. Force their early growth with a free application of bone phosphate to the hill. Keep the ground in a mellow state, and stirred until the vines begin to cover it, but as the roots run to the full length of the vines, and grow as fast, the working should not be more than two or three times apart. With this treatment we believe there would be few failures in growing watermelons, and as they are a favorite with all classes, it is well worth the trouble, whether for private or private use.

PERFECT ROSES.

Peter Henderson (in the *Agriculturist*), in allusion to the fact that all the good qualities of fragrance, beauty, hardiness and constant blooming are not to be found in one rose, quotes the words of a neighbor, who, he says, came to him in great irritation, and said: "If have so much trouble wid de ladies when dey comes to buy mine roses: dey wants him smonthly, dey wants him fragrant, dey wants him nice gouler, dey wants him eberydings in one rose. I have somedimes say to dat ladies: Madam, I never often sees dat ladies dat was beautiful, dat war rich, dat was good mother, dat was youngst, dat was clever, dat was befection in one ladies, I sees her much not."

PLANTING GRAPES VINES.

Our very ably conducted contemporary the Germantown *Telegraph*, gives the following reasonable and judicious advice based on the point, which are worthy of attention from all about setting vines, whether few or many:

One would suppose that so simple a thing as planting a grape-vine need scarcely be written about; and yet the number of people inquiring "How shall we plant?" is so great that a few words to these inquirers may well be pardoned by those who think they already know enough about the matter.

Now, it is a curious fact that in the grape-planting on the hills along the Rhine the effort is to plant deep and also to keep the roots deep after they are planted. If the grape-vine cutting has been made three eyes, as they often are, and roots are produced from the two lower ones, the upper set of roots are cut away, and every year afterwards, in going over with the annual pruning, any roots which may appear from the stem just below the surface are kept cut away. Yet we know that in our soils generally the vine never, or at least very rarely does well when the roots get deep; and so much is deep ploughing and deep trenching, as we find by English periodicals that in hot-house culture they even lay a bed of lime concrete under the grape borders to keep the roots from going down, and to force them to remain near the surface. It has been known to a certainty that the grape-vine does best in our country on hills that are the dryest, and it may be that the success of some of the hills referred to there is no injury as there would be on our damp subsoils; and there may be under some particular system of surface culture, some advantage in the roots thereby being forced to feed near the surface, when there is no harm resulting from their deep growth.

There, however, the rule is to plant the roots shallow. If they are long when we have to transplant them, instead of setting them deep we lay them along about four or five inches below the the floor.

It is of course very necessary to press the soil very hard and firm over the roots; that is if the earth is tolerably dry, though in truth no free should be planted except the earth is in this good condition.

It is very useful in planting a grape-vine to cut it closely in. Unless the last year's growth be very vigorous it may be almost all cut away; and even where this growth is strong, one-half may be cut away. This is the way to get a good strong cane for bearing next year, which is the main thing we look to or expect a vine to do. "Immediate bearing" is a delusion and a snare. Many a person spends a dollar or a half a dollar extra on a vine which he is told "will bear the next year," when for that amount of money he could buy treble the quantity of grapes it will bear for him, even if it bears at all. Still we like to plant good strong, healthy grapes. The little crowquills which comeout at rare grapes at high prices seldom give much satisfaction. Indeed it is more than likely that the immense failures which generally follow all these introductions are as much owing to the vine and their propagation is forced, as to any inherent inability in the varieties to become adapted to soils and climates.

DESTROYING LICE.

Milch cows and calves are usually the first to be infested with lice, and they extend thence to the balance of the herd, and in the spring before shedding the hair these parasites are most prevail. This is especially the case with those herds that are not thoroughly cared for, and with those whose masters add to their droves by purchase. One of the easiest applications is kerosene reduced with two-thirds its bulk of water. A few applications carefully applied will usually destroy the vermin. Lard oil with a little sulphur mixed in it is also a good application, but if the animals take cold from the application of sulphur sometimes they suffer from its effects.—*Western Rural.*

TURKEY RAISING.

Farmers who live in the sparsely settled districts, abounding in large, dry pastures can afford to give the time of a faithful and intelligent lad to the whole time through to be devoted exclusively to rearing turkeys. The young broods must be watched as constantly as ever a shepherd watches sheep in a region infested by wolves. Every night, or during the day, on the approach of rain, they must be driven to a roomy shed with a tight roof. The mother birds, and the young, can soon be trained to being driven easily as cows are driven to pasture. Give good forage ground, and keep out of the rain and dew, and success is almost certain.—*The Poultry World.*

HARRISBURG.

Proceedings of the Legislature.

Hon. B. B. Strang Chosen Speaker of the Senate—Presentations—Illness of State Treasurer Mackey.

Special to Pittsburgh Press.

HARRISBURG, April 10, 1873.

Both branches of the Legislature adjourned to-day *sine die*. B. B. Strang, of Tioga, was elected and will take his place as Speaker of the Senate. Presents were made to the various retiring officers.

Among the members of the House who received testimonials were the following: Mahon, of Franklin, received a gold headed cane. Col. Balsantine a magnificent chronometer, Young an ebony cane, Sample and Ramsey each a set of diamond studs.

State Treasurer Mackey was reported quite ill to-day, but the report was exaggerated.

THE RED SKINS.

Peace Negotiations with the Modocs—The Recent Murder of Surveyors—Threatened War.

WASHINGTON, April 10.—The Secretary of the Interior has received a letter from Modoc Peace Commissioner Meacham, in which Meacham says the principal impediment to peace negotiations is the fear that the Indians indicted by the Jackson county Grand Jury will be given up for punishment. The Peace Commissioners and military are yet working together harmoniously to overcome the distrust of the Modocs, but the difficulty is encountered from the intervention of bad white men who, from mercenary motives, desire the protongation of the war. Meacham says the desire of the government is well understood by his colleagues, and the military, and no means will be left untried to secure peace. Secretary Delano had advised the military to give up the indicted Indians, but rather to remove them if they surrender.

Commissioner of Indian Affairs has received a letter from Superintendent Hoag, stating that it has not yet been discovered who were the perpetrators of the murder of the four surveyors. He reports the Cheyennes and Arapahoes disturbed in their buffalo range by whites south of the Arkansas river, where their treaty of 1867 provides they may hunt as long as they desire. They are also disturbed and are dissatisfied with the appearance of the stay of the surveyors on their reservation, but deny any knowledge of the recent murders. The excitement has risen high among them in consequence of the murder of several of their number lately while coming from New Mexico, as previously reported, but the excitement is subsiding and things are now about tionless control them, if the border citizens can be properly restrained.

The Commissioner of Indian Affairs has called the attention of the Secretary of the Interior to the recent murder of surveyors, and requested the Secretary to obtain from the President an order for the immediate movement of two companies of troops in the vicinity of the public works west of the nineteenth meridian. The Secretary will make the desired official request.

ST. LOUIS, April 10.—The Lawrence, Kansas, *Journal* learns that the Kiowas, Cheyennes and Arapahoes Indians are preparing for war, and that the government is reinforcing all the forts in Western Kansas and south of that section. Extra troops has been ordered to the front. Two companies of cavalry have already arrived and two more are on the road. There is every prospect of Indian troubles on the frontier.

The Leavenworth *Times*, of a recent date, says all trustworthy accounts from the frontier represent the Arapahoes and Cheyennes as making preparations for a campaign of determined fighting. The young men of the tribes are eager for war path, the police and are restless, impatient and eagerly awaiting the time when the Medicine Lodge treaty shall have visited Washington and on the route noted the extent of the white population, have advised peace and the making of councils, but the influence of these leaders of the lodges will not listen to the song of the Quakeress.

LEAVENWORTH, April 10.—The *Times'* Arkansas City correspondent mentions the return of the recent party sent out to investigate the murder of surveyors on Cimmaron river. The party reached the spot on the 4th inst., and found the remains of the victims of them horribly mutilated. Deming's remains were brought back to Arkansas City for interment. The remains of the other surveyors were buried where they were slain. The rescue party encountered several bands of Cheyenne Indians, who exhibited an hostile demonstration but did not venture to attack

FORT SCOTT, April 10.—The United States troops stationed on the Indian frontier are actively preparing their dr parture for Ft. Gibson. The cavalry started yesterday, and will follow through, and the infantry will follow by rail on Monday.

THE ERIE CORRUPTION.

Jay Gould on the Witness Stand—His Memory Fails Here.

NEW YORK, April 11, 1873.

The Erie Investigating Committee resumed its session here to-night. Jay Gould was examined and testified: Couldn't remember having approved or directed the payment of sums to Tweed. If there were vouchers, must be some signed by himself. No books or papers that would show such payments. Employed A. D. Barber as a kind of general agent on behalf of the Erie Company, to see that no hostile legislation passed to its injury. He was to use his influence among the legislators. Had no recollection that payments were made him oftener during the sessions of the Legislature than any other time. Had faint recollections of real estate transactions with Barber. Van Vechten, Pomeroy and Shepard were Erie Company, and was to see that no hostile measures slipped through the Legislature. The voucher for $5,000, dated August 15th, 1871, Drew's handwriting. Could tell nothing of various other vouchers of Tweed's, and could give no information that Tweed received any part of the money of the Executive Committee and a Director. Remembered nothing of legislation relative to the Erie road in '69 and '70. Was engaged in too many transactions of magnitude to remember details. Sometimes sent orders charged to legal services which were not paid for strictly legal services. It was an Indiana robbery account. Didn't know that Tweed was known to favorable men cost: it was a good deal. Several thousand dollars was paid to Indiana counsel relative to carry the election for Republicans; thought it better to do it that way than afterwards; had better reason for sending cash to Indiana than he was told was necessary, part of it though Senator Colfax. Committee some money in Clinton county and in nearly every Senatorial District; was beset for contributions on all sides; couldn't give the items of expenditure in detail. The account over he punished all recollection of the details from his mind. They had four States to take care of, namely, New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania and Ohio, and considered the case of investments profitable to the company. Sometimes they caught a tarter. For himself he was a Democrat in the memorable district, Republican in a Republican, and doubtfull in a doubtful district. Gen. Sherman was a friend of his, and what his own politics were. Had always been an Erie man, however. Even if shown the list of members of the Legislature would not give the names of any he assisted. Remembered no payments other than those to Barber.

CIVIL SERVICE REFORM.

Correspondence Between Mayor Medill, of Chicago, and President Grant.

NEW YORK, April 10.—The *Times* of to-morrow prints the following correspondence:

MAYOR'S OFFICE, CHICAGO, April 1, 1873.

To His Excellency, U. S. Grant, President of the United States:

DEAR SIR.—An executive order was promulgated on the 18th of January, 1873, against the holding of State or municipal offices by Federal appointees after the 4th of March, 1873. Under this order it would be illegal for me to continue to hold the office of Commissioner of the Civil Service Board, unless I resign the Mayoralty of Chicago. Not feeling that it would be expedient to do the latter, I respectfully tender my resignation of the appointment from you of Civil Service Commissioner, and I hereby tender my thanks for the confidence you reposed in me in making such appointment. I also trust that the rules prepared by the Board, and accepted and adopted by you, will not be abused, practically, by the neglected of enforcement, believing as I do that the application of the rules improve and enhance the civil service, and that they are indorsed by the great mass of the American people.

Very respectfully, yours,

JOSEPH MEDILL.

EXECUTIVE MANSION,
WASHINGTON, D. C., April 9, 1873.

DEAR SIR.—Upon my return to Washington I find your letter of the 1st inst., resigning the position of Commissioner of the Civil Service Board in consequence of your inability to hold that position together with your responsible office of Mayor of Chicago. I appreciate your reason, while I regret that the Board should be deprived of your valuable services. In accepting your resignation I beg to thank you for your earnest labors in the cause of civil service reform, and to assure you that the system and rules adopted will be maintained.

Very respectfully yours,

U. S. GRANT.

To Hon. Joseph Medill, Chicago, Ills.

TERRIBLE EARTHQUAKE.

Destruction of the City of San Salvador, in Central America—Eight Hundred Lives Lost.

ASPINWALL, April 5, via HAVANA, April 10.—The city of San Salvador, in Central America, has been destroyed by an earthquake. Eight hundred persons perished, and twelve million dollars worth of property was destroyed. The earthquake was followed by a conflagration. Many buildings were entered. For a few days slight shocks of earthquake had occurred, but no serious apprehensions were entertained. It was on the afternoon of the 4th of March, about half-past four, when almost without warning, a great part of the city was reduced to little more than ruins. The ground heaved up as a ship in a gale, terrific thunderings burst from under foot, walls tottered and were rent in many places with wide crevices, roofs sank, and tiles, etc., were precipitated to the ground; lamps, pitchers, pans, glass, etc., were overturned and broken. Three violent shocks followed in succession, and the servants commenced to scream piteously and could not be restrained. Wild birds flew to the houses, the horses grew frantic in the stables, and the dogs howling, sunk away for protection. Every few minutes shakings of less violence occurred, and the beggars description. Ruined houses, panic stricken people—men, women and children—fleeing to the plains with valuables and provisions. Then the ringing of the alarm bells, and beating of drums, calling all the soldiers under arms—for fore murder and pillage accompany the confusion of great earthquakes, and as the frightened citizens leave the town, dreaky Indians from the forests prowl for prey into it, only checked by the bayonets of the government troops. Many are arrested in squads at short distances all over San Salvador.

Newfoundland Ratifies the Treaty of Washington.

NEW YORK, April 11.—A letter from Newfoundland to the *Evening Post*, dated April 1st, says: The House of Assembly has agreed by an overwhelming majority to accept the provisions of the treaty of Washington which have reference to Newfoundland. Only four out of a House of thirty members voted against the ratification of the treaty, and they did so on technical grounds, arguing that the question should have been first submitted to the constituencies

WASHINGTON.

The Modoc Indian Treachery.

What Gen. Sherman Thinks of It.

DOES NOT FAVOR THE PEACE POLICY.

Patents to Pennsylvanians.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

WASHINGTON, D. C., April 10, 1873.

The Reviving Indian Troubles.

General Sherman is in daily receipt of telegrams from the department commanders of the frontiers respecting the condition of affairs among the Indians of the Plains. The Sioux, north of the Platte, have already displayed great restlessness, and have shown their inclination to take the war path during the summer by making attacks on cattle stations and trains on the overland route. The plan of war concocted by certain Indian Agents that the recent murders of surveyors were in retaliation for the firing upon a band of Indians by a scouting party of soldiers, proves to be without foundation. The dispatch from General Pope says that no knowledge of such an occurrence has come to him from any of the posts within his command, nor do the telegrams from General Augur in Utah contain anything of the kind. It is also well known that many of these Indian Agents are brought about by certain Indian Agents and traders. These stories are necessary in order to keep them supplied with arms. They also follow the powder, balls, whisky and other contraband articles which form a lucrative trade for certain agents and traders now out on the Plains. Information has been therefore, find a scape-goat in the army.

It is at last known that the bodies of the surveyors were murdered near the Medicine Lodge, where President Johnson's Peace Commissioners held a council with the Indians last fall.

All the reports from the South of the Arkansas river in the Indian Territory indicate a serious state of affairs. The surveys are being made under the orders of the Interior Department for the purpose of laying out new trails in the coded lands. This is in those portions of the Indian Territory in the occupation of other tribes to be transferred to that section. Of these negotiations Commissioner Parker is cognizant, and is carrying on a system of petty negotiations; the Dog Soldiers, made up of the fighting element of the Cheyennes, Arapahoes and Kiowas along the Republican, Arkansas and Cimmaron, are already on the war path; the Comanches, although not yet on the war path, are restless in their hostility, than when they first came in contact with the whites in Texas. They are well armed and men of the tribe, still remain on their reservation.

It is about time the public were learning that the army has nothing to do with Indian affairs further than to be advised and misrepresented by certain agents when it is necessary to call the attention from the actual condition of the wild tribes. General Sherman still adheres to his old Indian policy, which may be stated in a few words, viz: to mean "peace on and war off the reservation." With the Mountain and Plain Indians in such a refractory state, it is hoped that the Democratic party find it rather risky where red-skins are in the habit of inviting in their love of homogeneous voters.

Resignation of Minister De Long.

The letter of Mr. De Long, resigning his position as Minister of the United States to Japan, reached the State Department to-day. It is understood that if the Japanese Government can be induced to recall from the Prime Minister of the Mikado, requesting that he be not recalled.

Increase of Pay in an Officials's Absence

A large batch of requisitions and other official papers requiring the signature of the Secretary of the Navy were necessarily sent to that officer yesterday. It is understood that a very large number of similar papers are lying in the War Department awaiting the signature of the same person, who is Secretary of War *pro tempore*. The Secretary left here several days, after assuming the control of the two Departments, and has not been back since. It is complained that the business of the two Departments has been practically suspended and great inconvenience has resulted therefrom. The Secretary was in New York at last accounts.

Bankrupt Law Decision

In the United States District Court, at Lynchburg, Va., Judge Rives made an important decision in regard to the amendatory bankrupt law, to the effect that the law was constitutional, and decided that it gave to bankrupts the discharge from debts against them as well as new debts, and against all liens or judgments in the State court.

Civil Service Easily Precedent.

The assignment of Admiral Case to the command of the squadron, vice Alden retires, establishes a precedent, it appears, which will prove rather expensive. It seems the Admiral wrote his own orders and submitted them to the Secretary of the Navy for approval. The President is most zealously interested in this civil service reform, who exhibited an hostile disposition but did not venture to attack

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Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

WASHINGTON, D. C., April 13, 1873.

The Pretended Pulp Well.

The President will leave here next week on a visit to his farm in the vicinity of St. Louis, Missouri. He at present expects to be absent several weeks. After his return he will make preparations for his removal to his residence at the sea side, where he will remain all summer. It is understood that before leaving the President will complete the appointments to the offices of Internal Revenue under the new law. The offices remaining unfilled are about twelve in number.

Three Reasons for His Vote.

Senator Sargent, of California, is the last martyr to public opinion. He writes a letter on the high moral standard, stating his reasons for voting in favor of the increase of salary. One reason was to prevent the legislative bill from being defeated. This is an old story and rather thin. Another reason was to get rid of mileage, which was often the subject of unpleasant reflection upon Pacific coast members. Lastly, on account of the repeal of the franking privilege. The latter evidently will not last long, for having secured their extra pay, some members already assert that the franking privilege will be re-enacted as soon as the present excitement over the latest Congressional appropriation of public money has passed over. Some are striving to tickle the public into a good humor, by saying that the increase of salary will be repealed. Not one so near Congress as this believes any such action until the people have a chance to make their voice felt.

Inter-oceanic Canal Surveys.

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Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

WASHINGTON, D. C., April 13, 1873.

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A considerable number of people, without knowledge of the every day Indian, and played upon by a few persons who would never have been heard of except for their absurd notions, and the Modoc, created such a degree of public opinion that the President was necessitated to stop the fighting for a time. The surveys are being made under the orders of the Interior Department for the purpose of laying out new trails in the coded lands. This is in those portions of the Indian Territory in the occupation of other tribes to be transferred to that section. Of these negotiations Commissioner Parker is cognizant, and is carrying on a system of petty negotiations; the Dog Soldiers, made up of the fighting element of the Cheyennes, Arapahoes and Kiowas along the Republican, Arkansas and Cimmaron, are already on the war path; the Comanches, although not yet on the war path, are restless in their hostility, than when they first came in contact with the whites in Texas. They are well armed and men of the tribe, still remain on their reservation.

It is about time the public were learning that the army has nothing to do with Indian affairs further than to be advised and misrepresented by certain agents when it is necessary to call the attention from the actual condition of the wild tribes. General Sherman still adheres to his old Indian policy, which may be stated in a few words, viz: to mean "peace on and war off the reservation." With the Mountain and Plain Indians in such a refractory state, it is hoped that the Democratic party find it rather risky where red-skins are in the habit of inviting in their love of homogeneous voters.

Resignation of Minister De Long.

The letter of Mr. De Long, resigning his position as Minister of the United States to Japan, reached the State Department to-day. It is understood that if the Japanese Government can be induced to recall from the Prime Minister of the Mikado, requesting that he be not recalled.

Increase of Pay in an Officials's Absence

A large batch of requisitions and other official papers requiring the signature of the Secretary of the Navy were necessarily sent to that officer yesterday. It is understood that a very large number of similar papers are lying in the War Department awaiting the signature of the same person, who is Secretary of War *pro tempore*. The Secretary left here several days, after assuming the control of the two Departments, and has not been back since. It is complained that the business of the two Departments has been practically suspended and great inconvenience has resulted therefrom. The Secretary was in New York at last accounts.

Bankrupt Law Decision

In the United States District Court, at Lynchburg, Va., Judge Rives made an important decision in regard to the amendatory bankrupt law, to the effect that the law was constitutional, and decided that it gave to bankrupts the discharge from debts against them as well as new debts, and against all liens or judgments in the State court.

Civil Service Easily Precedent.

The assignment of Admiral Case to the command of the squadron, vice Alden retires, establishes a precedent, it appears, which will prove rather expensive. It seems the Admiral wrote his own orders and submitted them to the Secretary of the Navy for approval. The President is most zealously interested in this civil service reform, who exhibited an hostile disposition but did not venture to attack

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The Pretended Pulp Well.

The President will leave here next week on a visit to his farm in the vicinity of St. Louis, Missouri. He at present expects to be absent several weeks. After his return he will make preparations for his removal to his residence at the sea side, where he will remain all summer. It is understood that before leaving the President will complete the appointments to the offices of Internal Revenue under the new law. The offices remaining unfilled are about twelve in number.

Three Reasons for His Vote.

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The Pittsburgh Commercial: Saturday, April 19, 1873.

Weekly Commercial.

SATURDAY, APRIL 19, 1873.

UNITED STATES SENATOR FERRY, of Connecticut, expresses himself opposed to a Constitutional Convention in that State, fearing more evils from it than now exist. Probably the Senator has been reading the reports of the proceedings of the Constitutional Convention in this State.

THE Commissioner of Internal Revenue has just decided that persons can remove their business from one State to another without the additional tax, provided they register with the Collector the change of business. This decision is of general public interest and importance.

THE Governor, under the authority conferred by the Appropriation bill to appoint three Special Commissioners on the part of the State to the Vienna Exposition, $6,000 being appropriated for their expenses, has appointed Hons. J. L. GRAHAM, J. S. RUTAN and J. DEPUY DAVIS as such Commissioners. They have engaged berths on the Parthia, one of the Cunard steamers, which sails from New York on the 26th inst., and they expect to be absent some two or three months.

INCREDIBLE as it may seem, a society has actually been formed in the south of France for the promotion of ignorance, the members pledging themselves not to employ any laborer who can read or write. If the society were American, we should strongly recommend a month's study of the principal opposition organs. If this did not have the effect of cultivating illiteracy through sheer disgust with the art of reading, the organization might as well be disbanded at once.

HON. GEORGE H. ANDERSON is a candidate for re-nomination to the State Senate from this county, as appears by announcement in another column. Senator ANDERSON has, by a manly, straightforward and upright course, earned the confidence and hearty commendation of his constituents, and reflected credit upon himself and the county which he represents, having discharged his duties so satisfactorily, and shown his entire fitness for the position, it is just and proper that his services should be retained.

THE "Sunday movement," as it is termed in this country, appears to be making considerable headway in staid, conservative England. A large number of distinguished and influential clergymen and ministers have signed a petition to Parliament to the effect that in their opinion the opening of museums, libraries and art galleries that are under the management of the government, on the afternoon of Sunday, would greatly promote the moral and intellectual improvement of large classes of her Majesty's subjects, and is thoroughly in accordance with the object and meaning of the Christian Sunday," and therefore pray accordingly.

THE government, at the last session of Congress, appropriated $100,000 for the purpose of making experiments connected with the burning of steam boilers, and the Pennsylvania Railroad Company has had in use apparatus and material for making similar experiments, and FRANCIS B. STEVENS, Esq., in behalf of that company, has tendered the government the use thereof, which it is understood has been accepted. The experiments, or a portion of them at least, will be conducted at Sandy Hook (where most of the material is), under the joint supervision of the Inspector-General of Steamboats and the Chief Engineer of the Navy.

THERE are some indications that the tendency of our people to extravagant and unnecessary expenditure is about to undergo a healthy reaction. Although the importations to the United States for the first quarter of the present year are larger than ever before for any like period, the statistics of trade now being compiled show that the general demand for imported articles is far from coming up to the usual standard, and the opinion is quite general that importers will sustain considerable loss because of the unusual lethargy in the trade for the present season. In a hurry it is merely to be hoped the economic impulse may continue.

THE latest denitrite reports from the English iron districts announce a total suspension of new orders for the moment. This is owing to the high prices insisted upon; but, being under contract, masters are in a hurry to relax quotations in view of the higher wages ironworkers will require next quarter, the still stiffening rates for coal, and the difficulty of procuring ores to work upon. The agitation of the ironstone miners has ended without any concessions being obtained, and is satisfactory as bringing out a resolution not to indulge in any further strikes, but to substitution of a system of arbitration. In the meanwhile, foreign orders for heavy iron are said to be intercepted by Belgian firms.

MR. TOWNSEND, of West Chester, is the only member of Congress from Pennsylvania (except Senator SCOTT) who refused to take the back pay voted them by the last Congress. All the rest took it and have kept it. In the steadily increasing list of those who have been shamed into surrendering it by giving it to local charities and other objects, we look in vain for the name of a single Pennsylvanian. New York furnishes three or four, Ohio two or three, but the Keystone State none. It would have been better for all of them, now and hereafter, to have followed Mr. TOWNSEND's example; but the time for that having gone by, the next best thing to do with it is to send it back to Spinner. It will burn holes in their pockets if they don't.

MR. MORRILL, of Vermont, sends his extra back pay, as Congressman, to the State Treasury, to be applied to the payment of the Vermont State debt. This is better than keeping it; but why did he not refuse it altogether? There was no compulsion to take it; and if it was wrong for him to keep it, it was just as wrong to take it at all. The large number of Congressmen who took this back pay and have since given it away, some to one purpose and some to another, is a healthy indication of the force of public sentiment; but the fact that not one of all the repentant Congressmen who have so far publicly rebuked the public judgment against this steal as to refuse to keep it, has had the pluck to return it where it truly belongs, to the United States Treasury, from whence it should never have been taken, is evidence that they all lost their back bone when they took their back pay.

THE Grand Jury of New York are investigating the condition of the money market, the causes of the lock-up of gold, and the question of who is responsible for it. Several well known financiers have already been brought before them. It is generally understood that the Grand Jury aim rather at discovering whether there is a conspiracy to make money stringent than the fact, which nobody doubts, that men have given more than seven per cent. for the money needed to make their bank accounts straight. In this view of the matter it is hoped that the investigation may be pushed as far back as the corner in North-western, at which time money first began to become scarce. The best method of frustrating these conspiracies would probably be found in the repeal of the usury laws, inasmuch as this would put conscientious people on the same footing as the unscrupulous, and remove the only pretext which the latter have for charging exorbitant rates.

WHILE it is by no means pleasant to reflect upon the rate at which foreign capitalists are draining us of our gold, we have at least the satisfaction of knowing that we are draining Europe of a wealth vastly greater than mere specie. We are importing the young, the industrious and the muscular element of foreign population, while the aged, the diseased and the helpless are generally left behind. A party of one hundred picked English farmers, gentlemen, intentions, and possessed of considerable capital, have just started for Minnesota, with definite and sensible plans of organization and future operations. When a beginning has been made and the land is under cultivation, houses, erected, etc., five hundred families will follow, and these several thousand Englishmen, women and children, with the energy, industry and respectability which constitute the most hopeful part of their capital, will within a brief period expand into a city which will be a credit to them and a great gain to us. The statistics of our immigration show that, for a number of years past and who have assisted him faithfully in carrying out his policy. But the policy itself is of his own creation. The inspiration of it came from him, and to him belongs the credit of it. No one, except those who were eye-witnesses, can describe the terrible pressure brought to bear on him, by men from all parts of the State, to make their bills exceptions to his rules, nor appreciate the inflexibility with which he met it. The trial was almost as difficult as that through which he passed last fall; but he bore it like a soldier, and when it became manifest that he would not swerve a hair's breadth from his course for friend or foe, every one acquiesced in it and applauded him for it.

For the sake of this grand old State we are glad that she has a Governor in whom every one has confidence and of whom no one need feel ashamed. He has begun his career well, and a future full of honor is before him. Let him go on as he has begun. The vindication already wrought for him is complete and triumphant, and the future, we are confident, can do nothing to impair it.

THE LATE ATROCITY AND THE PACIFIC POLICY.

Should the horrible crime lately committed by the Modoc Chief, Jack and his companions, result in the abandonment of the policy of peace, the effect would surely be nothing less than a national calamity as well as a national disgrace. It is, however, evident that a party powerful in number and animated by a zeal worthy of a better cause, are laboring to produce that result. The Modoc murders seem to them to present an occasion most opportune. The crime being marked by all the features of atrocity and treachery adapted to excite the horror and indignation of civilized men against its perpetrators, is adroitly and insidiously used by the enemies of the peace policy to render its supporters objects of popular odium and distrust. From the comments of some newspapers on the late atrocity, an ill-informed reader would confidently infer that the supporters of the pacific policy, if not directly responsible for the crime, were at least deeply implicated in its occurrence.

But there is little of either art or sense in such representations, and the energy and promptitude with which they are put forth in connection with the deplorable death of useful and distinguished citizens indicate unmistakeably the prejudiced source from which they issue. It is a mode of warfare with which the friends of the pacific policy have been familiar from the beginning, and is too well understood to produce much, if any, impression upon just and honest minds. The method of dealing with the Indians, which President GRANT's administration has endeavored to apply, is essentially a mere attempt to treat them with justice and fairness. It is founded on the belief, well justified by reason and experience, that, the red men are really human beings, and, that though savages, they are not only fully capable of distinguishing between right and wrong, but are susceptible of being influenced and controlled through the feelings which are awakened by the treatment they receive. Then, it is important to remember that the pacific policy for some years on trial, was adopted only after a very different policy had been thoroughly tried and found to produce no satisfactory results. Those who denounce or scoff at the peace commissioners and Indian agents of to-day, seem to forget that, under the old system, while millions of dollars were every year expended, Indian wars were a chronic evil and the frontier was never safe. Massacres were so common that they excited little emotion beyond the locality in which they occurred.

Another fact which can not be too carefully kept in mind is the frightful extent to which the Indians were cheated and imposed upon by or rather in the name of the government by the agents whom it was compelled to trust. That solemn treaties were disregarded without scruple when the interests of civilization seemed to demand their violation, and that money and provisions solemnly promised were often either not given at all or given irregularly and in lessamounts than the contract required, these are facts completely attested again and again by Commissioners acting for the United States. Authorities of this policy Indian discontent, treachery and hostilities were the inevitable outcome, and not only common justice and humanity, but dignity and self-respect on the part of the American people demanded that this disreputable system should give place to something better. General GRANT's pacific policy was the substitute devised, and the results of its trial are at least sufficiently satisfactory to justify the prosecution of the experiment. It is idle, as some do, to refer the sympathy and approval which the new policy has enlisted to sentimentalism, morbid philanthropy, or romantic notions of aboriginal character. These agencies probably exert slight influence in the matter, but sense of justice and recognition of the difference between right and wrong in the better portion of the nation, are undoubtedly the main source of the moral force which has sustained the policy of peace.

It would be childish if it were not dishonest to denounce this policy on account of the failure of some of its agents in character and manner. Such failures must occur under whatever system may be adopted, and so far as there has not been time enough entirely to overcome or counteract the disastrous effects of the multitudinous failures of the kind which occurred under the old system.

In this unhappy Modoc business the calamity of a few days ago may be directly traced to crimes and misdeeds of the past, which rendered a change of Indian policy necessary. At least two disinterested newspaper correspondents, one of them from New York, who made careful inquiries on the ground, have testified that the Modocs were driven into hostility by the cruel and iniquitous treatment which they had received at the hands of white men, at least one of whom was an agent of the government. That JACK's band were forced by starvation from the reservation assigned them seems a well established fact, and for this result the Indians were provided with ample means for their subsistence, was directly responsible. In fact, the savages, so often deceived as to be no longer able to believe anybody, and at any rate certain that they were to be put out of the way with whatever consequences to themselves, appear to have become some time ago utterly desperate, and resolved to sell their lives as dearly as possible. Admit that they acted out completely at last the part of treacherous and bloodyminded savages; still the fact remains that the documents of many generations of Christians, when in a state of warfare and burning with the belief, well or ill-founded, that they were the victims of intolerable wrong at the hands of their enemies, have done deeds as treacherous and as sanguinary as the recent deeds of Captain JACK and his band.

GOV. HARTRANFT.

No man in Pennsylvania ever passed through such an ordeal of personal abuse as Gov. HARTRANFT. He was so constantly vilified and traduced that, even after all the lying charges against him had been thoroughly exposed, many conscientious men throughout the State went to the polls under the glamour which the libellers had raised, and either did not vote for Governor at all or voted against the Republican candidate. Many others voted for him doubtingly and hesitatingly, so great is the power of falsehood to mislead and deceive.

The Governor has now been in office about three months, only; and in that short space of time he has succeeded in dispelling all the clouds that hovered about his good name, and has installed himself in the public heart as a firm, honest, high-minded and incorruptible man, and has also won a high place as a far-seeing and discreet statesman. Even those papers which traduced him the most, which doubted his capacity, impugned his honesty, disputed his integrity, and painted him, generally, as blacker than the devil, have been compelled to take back and ignore every count in their indictment of him, and to confess that Pennsylvania is fortunate in having found such a Chief Magistrate.

The occasions for the display of such high qualities in the Governor have not been sought or procured by him. They came to him in the regular course of his administration, and without ostentation or parade he has made himself master of the situation. His acts have not been heralded or blazoned for effect; but the record of them has silently worked its effects on the public judgment and extorted commendation from all.

The men who labored to secure the nomination of Governor HARTRANFT; who stood by him in the dark hours of his campaign; who refused to listen to the cry for his withdrawal; and who insisted upon submitting he calumnies on him to the popular verdict, have not been mistaken in the man nor disappointed in his course. He has signally vindicated the confidence they reposed in him, and has justified, to the full, the firm stand they made in his behalf. They presented him to the people as an honest, upright and inflexible man—a man well acquainted with the material interests of the State, and devoted to upholding and promoting their prosperity; and the results attest the correctness of their representations.

The Governor has drawn good men and safe advisers about him—men who take pride in doing well their part and who have assisted him faithfully in carrying out his policy. But the policy itself is of his own creation. The inspiration of it came from him, and to him belongs the credit of it. No one, except those who were eye-witnesses, can describe the terrible pressure brought to bear on him, by men from all parts of the State, to make their bills exceptions to his rules, nor appreciate the inflexibility with which he met it. The trial was almost as difficult as that through which he passed last fall; but he bore it like a soldier, and when it became manifest that he would not swerve a hair's breadth from his course for friend or foe, every one acquiesced in it and applauded him for it.

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CHEAP TRANSPORTATION.

The time for the resumption of navigation on the lakes is near at hand, and accordingly we find the railroads reducing their rates from the west to the seaboard. This will continue while navigation remains open, and when it closes the rates will go up again.

The remedy for this is not, as the farmers of the West suppose, in fighting the railroads or in clamoring for "cheap transportation." So long as the railroads can find plenty to do, and *all* they can do, at high rates, so long will high rates continue. The simple truth is that the West produces more than the railroads can carry, and that its produce cannot be carried long distances at low rates with profit to the carriers, or at rates so low as to enable the farmers to reap the full advantages of the Eastern markets. If the railroads were doubled, and all the watercourses improved so as to open new outlets to the Atlantic, the fact would still remain that the distance between the West and the Atlantic is too great to make the seaboard a profitable market to the Western producer.

The true and the only remedy for low and unremunerative prices for farm products in the rich producing districts of the great West is *to bring the consumers and producers closer together*, and so render transportation for long distances unnecessary. What the West needs is a *home* market for its products instead of an *Eastern* or a *foreign* one. If there were more factories in Chicago and St. Louis, Milwaukee and St. Paul, Indianapolis and Nashville, these cities would supply nearat-hand markets sufficient to consume so much of its supplies that the East would be compelled to come West in search of supplies, instead of the West seeking the East; and to take them, too, not at prices dictated by themselves, but at the rates prevailing in the home markets. If the "Granges," or secret societies of Western farmers would devote themselves to *this* aspect of the question they would do their cause more good than by quarreling with the tariff or dreaming the at present impossible dream of cheap transportation. One rolling mill or furnace is worth more than a railroad to any farming community. The workers must be fed; and it is far better for the Iowa farmer to feed them at Davenport or Dubuque, than at Philadelphia, New York, or in England. The price of transportation, in that event, goes into the farmer's pocket, instead of that of the transporters.

This is the solution of the problem of production and consumption. The plow, the loom and the anvil must be close to each other. Transportation is dear because the plow is at one end of this vast country and the loom at the other. Bring the two interests of consumption and production closer together, and the transporter ceases to be the master in the problem. He comes in, then, if he comes in at all, as an outside incident, and not as an integral part of the question. His terms will be low enough when he becomes the seeker instead of the sought.

Let the West think of it. A home market is the remedy, and the only remedy, for its multifarious difficulties and complaints.

THE necessity for using correct and precise language in framing State Constitutions is shown by the decision of the Supreme Court of Illinois in the case of the Railway Commissioners vs. the Chicago and Alton Railroad. The law in Constitution of that State gives the Legislature power to punish "*unjust* discrimination" in their rates upon the part of railroad companies. The evident intent of this provision was to prohibit *all* discrimination in railroad rates; and the framer of it, regarding all discrimination as "unjust," doubtless thought he was strengthening, instead of qualifying, limiting and therefore weakening his case by clapping on that adjective. The use of the qualifying adjective, in this instance, implies that there may be such a thing as "*just* discrimination," and that therefore the prohibition is confined to "*unjust* discrimination" alone. The act of the Legislature, passed in pursuance of this provision, punished all discrimination in railroad rates, and the Supreme Court, in the case we have referred to, set the act aside as unconstitutional because it was not restricted to that kind of discrimination which is demonstrably "unjust." If the little adjective had been left off altogether, the end aimed at would have been attained; but the temptation to make a case strong and sure by piling up words, was too strong to be resisted by the framers of that instrument have now the pleasure of learning how easy it is to defeat a good purpose by using too many words.

Our own Constitutional Convention is so wise and careful a body that it would probably be deemed offensive to suggest that it is in danger of being caught in the same trap; yet it would be no harm, perhaps, to look well over two to it on that subject, we would intimate that we fancy having detected a similar tendency to redundance in that quarter. The fewer words the better in the fundamental law, so that they be well understood and express what is meant; but all the various articles in our new Constitution so far submitted to the Convention for its action occupy more than the public space they should. The power to say a plain thing in a few words is apparently wanting, and instead of terse constitutional phrases, we have elaborate paraphrases of them. The result will be, if the Constitution be adopted as framed, that it will take a generation to determine its meaning judicially; and by that time the people will want a new one.

THE hostility of General SHERMAN to the pacific Indian policy of the President is well known, and it is not to be wondered at that he should seize upon the Modoc massacre as a fit occasion for giving an airing to *his* Indian policy, which is that of war, and which is founded upon the repulsive idea that the Indian is not a man, but a brute. The President's policy, on the contrary, proceeds upon the conviction that the Indian is a man, and can be won to do what is right by kind and manly treatment.

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STATE NEWS.

Some laborers engaged in digging a well in Reading, came across a skeleton which is supposed to be that of one James Grimes, who suddenly disappeared some sixty years ago, and was probably murdered.

SUSAN B. ANTHONY will lecture before the Lecture Association of Mercer on the evening of the 29th inst.

The Titusville *Herald* says: Mr. Henry Peters, a farmer living about a mile from Union City, last Wednesday evening attended a barn raising at a neighbors's some ways from home, leaving his four daughters at his residence. After the children had been in bed a little while, one of them, the eldest, awoke to find the bed and room in flames. Seizing one sister, she attempted to escape, but the younger of the two fainted, and it was with difficulty she could get out of the house herself. When the parents returned late at night, the house was entirely consumed, and the oldest daughter lay near almost dead in a cornfield. There were no indications of foul play, and the other three were so burnt that it was almost impossible to find their bones in the debris.

A little son of Thomas Lamb, of Scranton, was drowned on the 12th inst.

Thomas Jenkins of Providence, Luzerne county, disappeared suddenly on the 27th of March, and it was generally believed that he had been foully dealt with. His body was discovered in the Lackawanna river, on Friday last. There were no indications of a murder, except that he had on his person when last seen a considerable sum of money, which was not found on him when his body was examined.

The new Wetkel Iron mine, near Hensingersville, Lehigh county, is said to contain ore enough to supply half a dozen furnaces for fifty years. The vein is about eighteen feet thick, and comes up within three to six feet of the top of the ground. The ore is a brown hematite, and is said to require but an expense, it is said of not over one dollar per ton.

A lady in Williamsport has in her possession an Easter egg which dates back to 1824. This news is drawn like egg itself.

While two little brothers were at play in Tower City the other day, one cut three fingers off the hand of the other with an axe.

The first freight engine put to work on the Pennsylvania Railroad, left eight hundred and fifty miles *Eastern* or a *foreign* one. If there were more factories in Chicago and St. Louis, Milwaukee and St. Paul, Indianapolis and Nashville, these cities would supply nearat-hand *markets* sufficient to consume so much of its supplies that the East would be compelled to come West in search of supplies, instead of the West seeking the East; and to take them, too, not at prices dictated by themselves, but at the rates prevailing in the home markets. If the "Granges," or secret societies of Western farmers would devote themselves to *this* aspect of the question they would do their cause more good than by quarreling with the tariff or dreaming the at present) impossible dream of cheap transportation. One rolling mill or furnace is worth more than a railroad to any farming community. The workers must be fed; and it is far better for the Iowa farmer to feed them at Davenport or Dubuque, than at Philadelphia, New York, or in England. The price of transportation, in that event, goes into the farmer's pocket, instead of that of the transporters.

This is the solution of the problem of production and consumption. The plow, the loom and the anvil must be close to each other. Transportation is dear because the plow is at one end of this vast country and the loom at the other. Bring the two interests of consumption and production closer together, and the transporter ceases to be the master in the problem. He comes in, then, if he comes in at all, as an outside incident, and not as an integral part of the question. His terms will be low enough when he becomes the seeker instead of the sought.

Let the West think of it. A home market is the remedy, and the only remedy, for its multifarious difficulties and complaints.

THE necessity for using correct and precise language in framing State Constitutions is shown by the decision of the Supreme Court of Illinois in the case of the Railway Commissioners vs. the Chicago and Alton Railroad. The law in Constitution of that State gives the Legislature power to punish "*unjust* discrimination" in their rates upon the part of railroad companies. The evident intent of this provision was to prohibit *all* discrimination in railroad rates; and the framer of it, regarding all discrimination as "unjust," doubtless thought he was strengthening, instead of qualifying, limiting and therefore weakening his case by clapping on that adjective. The use of the qualifying adjective, in this instance, implies that there may be such a thing as "*just* discrimination," and that therefore the prohibition is confined to "*unjust* discrimination" alone. The act of the Legislature, passed in pursuance of this provision, punished all discrimination in railroad rates, and the Supreme Court, in the case we have referred to, set the act aside as unconstitutional because it was not restricted to that kind of discrimination which is demonstrably "unjust." If the little adjective had been left off altogether, the end aimed at would have been attained; but the temptation to make a case strong and sure by piling up words, was too strong to be resisted by the framers of that instrument have now the pleasure of learning how easy it is to defeat a good purpose by using too many words.

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A CURIOUS method of obtaining fire, practised in BURMAH, is described by Dr. John Anderson, naturalist to the commercial expedition into the Chinese province of Yunan by the government of British Burmah, in 1868. It is by means of "the steel and tinder process," and is effected by a closed cylinder. There is a small cup-shaped cavity at the end of the piston rod, into which a little tinder is inserted. The piston is then introduced into the cylinder, which it tightly fits, and by a blow is made to descend with great rapidity and force, and is as rapidly withdrawn, when the little bit of tinder is found to have become ignited." As Dr. Anderson's report has been printed only in India, and is not accessible in this country, or generally in England, we have obtained this quotation from an article in *Nature*.

THERE is now in process of construction at the Brooklyn navy yard, an experimental engine of war in the shape of a torpedo boat, of novel fashion and with what are said to be great improvements. The Secretary of the Navy, however, has given strict orders to exclude all visitors, on the ground that it would be injudicious to allow strangers of the country to become informed of the principles employed in the new implement of destruction. So careful have the precautions been, that the plans of the boat have been exhibited to but two or three persons. Mr. Secretary Robeson appears to have no connected idea of the work, as their tasks are given them in piecemeal.

THE nickel mine on Prospect mountain, four miles west of Litchfield Corners, Conn., is said to be the finest in the country. The ore is composed largely of copper, iron and sulphur, and about fifty years ago was worked as a copper mine. A German miner discovered that the ore contained nickel in considerable quantities, and purchased it for $500. In a short time he readily obtained $5,000 for it, and it was afterward bought by a Mr. McCluin for $7,000. Although the mine is worked for nickel, enough sulphur is obtained to pay the expenses of running it. It is said there are but five persons in this country who understand the process of reducing the ore to a state of purity.

AN official statement has been made that five hundred and eighty-six vessels were lost within the two months of January and February, 1873. This includes two hundred and twenty-one sailing vessels and thirty-four steamers in January, and three hundred and twelve sailing vessels and nineteen steamers in February. The vessels were mainly English, French and American vessels. In the two months two hundred and eighty-four English sailing vessels and twenty-three English steamers were lost.

JOHN BURNS, an Irishman, twenty-five years of age, was drowned in the creek at New Bethlehem, Clarion county, last Saturday afternoon. He had been working on the railroad for a year or more, and was regarded as a sober, quiet man. He got on a "spree" on Saturday, and had been sparring with a companion, who gave him a bloody nose. They adjourned to the creek to wash, when Burns toppled over into the water, which was very high at the time. His body had not been recovered.

THE NEW CONSTITUTION.

Reassembling of the Convention at Philadelphia—Minority Reports.

The Constitutional Convention reassembled at Philadelphia on Tuesday, 18th.

Mr. D. N. White, of Allegheny, presented a memorial signed by 6,293 citizens, praying that the prohibition insert a clause in the Constitution prohibiting the manufacture and sale of liquor as a beverage.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES.

Mr. Baily, of Perry, presented the minority report of the Committee on Railroads and Canals. In his report, Mr. Baily says:

The undersigned, a minority of the Committee on Railroads and Canals, approves of many of the provisions reported by the majority, which if adopted by the Convention, will operate greatly in the interest of the people and of the stockholders of corporations. But, as a whole, the report does not present a comprehensive system of railroad and canal organization, by which the power of dangerous and growing monopolies can be checked, and at the same time establishing a plan of transportation affording equal, if not greater, facilities to the people, and divested of all power to aggrandize their rights. Herein lies the difficulty. If no other system can be devised than the one now in operation, by which a very small number of corporations regulate the transportation of the country—controlling enormous capital, absorbing all the small corporations, when it suits their interest to do so, and establishing internal communications within themselves for transportation, manufacturing, mining and general business purposes, owned in great measure by the officers of the principal corporations, greatly to the injury of the general welfare—the future must be looked on with little else than dismay. The power of combination of the principal corporations, and the influence of the officers of the various railroads, in all the elections of the people and all the departments of the government, then the people may prepare for the helpless state of absolute vassalage. The acceptance of the person who may be so fortunate as to have control of three or four millions of money, he may comply with the forms of elections, but their public servants, when elected, will only be permitted to register the mandates of the potentates of monopoly. Money is power, and the accumulation of vast sums, either in the hands of natural or artificial persons, has always operated to the detriment of the rights of the people.

The power to construct railroads, corporations to purchase or lease the franchise and property, and to purchase shares in the stock of other railroad corporations, is fraught with great danger to the safety of our political institutions.

In the exercise of this power, the larger corporations can and do secure control over the weaker, whenever it is their interest. If they cannot purchase or lease the franchise, they resort to the expedient of purchasing a majority of the shares of stock, elect their own creatures for directors and then absorb the franchise by a contract with these willing tools.

This is the system that has foisted upon the people these overshadowing monopolies. Is it wise or safe to confirm it, when a plan of transportation, affording equal facilities in cheapness, rapidity and safety can be devised, entirely shorn of the power to monopolize. If such a system can be established such a system can be established.

In but three corporations should be deprived of the power to purchase or lease the franchise, bonds, or other indebtedness, or shares in the capital stock of each other, and these are railroad corporations free to pursue the purpose for which it was created, and nothing else. These are railroads, canals and more fortunate ones.

Railroad and canal corporations or companies should be limited to the business of common carriers, and should be prohibited from purchasing or leasing real estate, except for the mere purpose of location, and in twenty minutes all within the enactment—some sixty—with two exceptions were dead.

Erie has a Liars' club in full blast. Several newspaper men have been refused admission to membership, from the obvious reason that they lack the primary qualification.

Reading has stove-plates cast respectively in 1746, 1766 and 1873.

On Thursday, says the York *Daily*, Miss Juliana B. Clark, who resides with Mr. Henry Myers, Sr., corner King and Queen streets, shipped a box per Adams Express Company, addressed President C. Gibson, Huntingdon, Pa. The box contained a wool used by her grandfather. Major Clark, in the battle of Brandywine Creek, one British flag was shattered and torn with bullets, and which was captured from a British officer; also a sword carried by Major Clark during the war of 1812, and also contained a spy glass used by Miss Clark's father, Major John Clark, during the Revolutionary war. These relics were highly prized by Miss Clark, and preserved by her many years, and she has sent them to her friend in Huntingdon as a mark of appreciation of his services as a warrior and a statesman.

The Scranton *Times* says: "The fish are becoming so saucy in the Raymond Lake that they will not allow Mr. Tidam's ducks to go swimming, and can often be seen chasing the ducks up the inlet and out on the shore."

Edward Boulton, of Lyphant, Luzerne county, was found dead in his room on Sunday. Hard drinking caused it.

The people of Kittanning are still talking of building an opera house.

Mr. E. L. Christman has bought the interest of the late Mr. Kelley in the Washington *Reporter* establishment, and will hereafter be associated with Hon. W. S. Mc Murray in the management.

The Shenandoah *Herald* boasts the name of Hon. William Ewell for Judge of the Supreme Court.

The Sun inn, at Bethlehem, was built by the Moravian society more than a century ago. Its present owner is Henry Lichtenwalner.

Proposals are now being received for the contract of building the Perkiomen Railroad from Greenville to Emaus, on the East Pennsylvania branch, the balance of the road being completed. It is this proposed extension there will be a tunnel about 1,100 feet in length.

On Monday evening of last week Samuel A. Clark, a former resident of the Lagrange Iron Works, Sagatoga county, and the proprietor of the *Fidelity* mer, published in Harrisburg in 1837, died at Medina, New York.

Rafting has been resumed on the Susquehanna, and is now very brisk.

Messrs. Lloyd, Huff & Co. have opened a banking house in Ligonier. Mr. John Harnett is the cashier.

The Greensburg *Tribune and Herald* says: "The wheat crop in this county promises to be an unusually good one. The winter and spring were very favorable, and from present appearances, there is every prospect of an abundant harvest.

A grand sweepstakes is to be held in Allentown on the 22d inst.

MRS. JOANNA TORY died suddenly of heart disease, at her residence in West Bethlehem township, Washington county, on the 11th inst.

The fifth annual re-union of Battery B., First Artillery, of the Pennsylvania Reserve Corps, will be held at Bolivar, Pa., on Wednesday and Thursday, the 30th instant. Mr. John Q. Stewart will deliver an oration on the occasion.

The Washington *Reporter* says: "The market for wool continues dull. A considerable quantity still remains in the hands of our farmers, and but few sales are being made. Fifty cents seems to be the outside price.

A farmer living near Canonsburg had thirty sheep killed by dogs, in one night, recently.

STATE POLITICS.

The terms of eight Democratic and three Republican Senators expire with the present year, as follows:

2. David A. Nagle (Dem.), Philadelphia.
3. Wm. B. Waddell (Rep.), Chester and Delaware.
7. Jesse W. Knight (Dem.), Bucks.
8. Wm. Rogers (Dem.), Berks.
10. Wm. M. Randall (Dem.), Schuylkill.
11. Edwin Albright (Rep.), Lehigh and Carbon.
13. A. H. Dill (Dem.), Northumberland, Montour, Perry, and Snyder.
24. H. Bucher Swoyer (Dem.), and R. Bruce Petrikin (Dem.), Center, Juniata, Mifflin, and Huntingdon.
25. Geo. H. Anderson (Rep.), Allegheny.
29. Geo. R. Delamater (Rep.), Crawford.

Hon. W. B. Roberts was solicited by a large number of Titusville Republicans to allow the use of his name as a candidate for Senator, but declined, on account of private business requiring his entire attention.

The Cholera in Europe.

The latest reports concerning the movement of cholera in Europe are of an encouraging character, and offer grounds for belief that it may not find its way across the ocean this year. In Central Europe, since the beginning of the year it has been confined to the Northern and Eastern portions of Italy and Austrian Empire. In February, it existed to a greater or less extent in Galicia, Silesia, Hungary, Moravia, and Bohemia. The latter country, however, indicates a very considerable diminution in the number of cases. In January, it was also found in Russia, and a spread widely over the extensive tract of country between the west coast of the Red Sea on the east and the great Desert on the west, and from Cassen Kassala in the south and Corosko in the north. It also spread along the Persian Gulf, and in the Caspian Empire. In February, it existed to a greater or less extent in Galicia, Silesia, Hungary, Moravia, and Bohemia. The latter country, however, indicates a very considerable di

The Pittsburgh Commercial: Saturday, April 19, 1873.

FINANCE AND TRADE.

WEDNESDAY EVENING, April 16, 1873.

The existing topic of the day was caused, by a dispatch coming over the wires of the indicator stating that there is "rumored heavy failures, great panic in stocks. Western Union down 3@ 78. Reported that Vanderbilt's bankers have failed." Following this came a general break in the whole list. New York Central selling down to 93, Michigan Southern to 89¾, Union Pacific to 25, Rock Island to 104), showing that the report was believed at headquarters, and that with their usual frenzy the brokers were throwing everything overboard. At this distance most persons are cool observers of the combat, unless they are operating on the uncertain contingencies of the course of prices in the New York Stock Exchange. Of the many theories advanced as panaceas for all financial ills, one worthy of attentive reading is that of Professor Atwater, in the last *Sridner*, written from the standpoint of the student rather than that of the practical business man, as is seen in his use of terms in senses not usual among bankers. Pointing out the evils patent to all observers of the effects of an arbitrary and inflexible reserve which denies the use of that reserve in cases of necessity, he indicates the antidote to the monetary strictures is a free use of the legal tender reserve in loans when needed, and while not favoring any change in the law which would do away with the amount now required, or a decrease of its rate of percentage to liabilities, he favors the keeping of a *varying reserve*, which shall show 25 per cent. on hands as the *average* of the year, allowing the banks to make use of their resources as they see fit during seasons of stringency, so that in times of monetary ease they so advance their resources that at the end of the year they will have had on hands an average of twenty-five per cent. of circulation and deposits—storing up in time of plenty ample supplies against the time of famine.

In support of this theory he cites the example of the Bank of England, which under its charter, as framed by Sir Robert Peel, the principle of an inflexible reserve was required, but that experience has taught its managers a truth of which they act, that the knowledge that an ample reserve exists on which it will draw at pleasure, imparts steadiness to the market and reduces the amount of loans of a precautionary character which helps largely to intensify any existing stringency.

The theory as advanced and illustrated is somewhat new, and is worthy of thoughtful attention.

—Messrs. Ira B. McVay & Co. report the following quotations of government bonds in New York to-day, as furnished them by Jay Cook & Co., their correspondents:

	Noon.	Evening
U. S. Bonds of 1881	119	119
U. S. Bonds of 1862	116	116¼
U. S. Bonds of 1864	116¼	117
U. S. Bonds of 1 65	117	117¼
U. S. Bonds of 1865, new	115	115
U. S. Bonds of 1867	115	115¼
U. S. Bonds of 1868	116¼	116¼
10-40's	112¾	113
New 5s	114	----
Currency 6s	117¼	----
Currency 6s	113½	113¾

—James T. Brady & Co., corner of Fourth avenue and Wood street, quoted United States securities in New York to-day as follows:

Gold	117¼
United States 6-20s of 1861	119¼
United States 5-20s of 1862	116¼
United States 5-20s of 1864	116¾
United States 5-20s of 1865	117
United States 5-20s of 1865, January and July	118¾
United States 10-40's	112¾
United States 5-20s, January and July, 1865	116
United States 5-20s, January and July, 1867	115¾
United States 5-20s, January and July, 1868	116¾
Currency Funding	113¾

—One of our correspondents asks us to explain what "income" bonds are. These bonds are not secured by any legal lien on the property of the railroad, but are simply notes of the company payable at a certain definite date, and differ from their issue, and having interest payable on presentation of coupons. They are to be considered as preferred stock, upon which semi-annual dividends are guaranteed for a specified number of years, and under certain conditions, which, if not complied with, need be paid out of the income of the road, it cannot be paid if the net income is insufficient; but if not paid, it cannot be legally collected of the returns of the company show that the net income, after payment of interest on the mortgage bonds, is sufficient and more than sufficient to meet the current expenses of the road. The income bonds most generally known are those of the Union Pacific Railroad.

—The following table shows the prices of railway stocks, gold, &c., at the various sessions of the New York Stock Exchange during the day, furnished by George I. Whitney, Esq., broker and dealer in stocks, bonds and gold, corner of Fifth avenue and Wood street:

April 16, 1873.	10:30	11	12	12:30	1	2:30	3:00 P.M.
Gold	117¼	117¼	117¼	117¼	117¼	117¼	117¼
Canton	----	----	----	----	----	----	----
Western Union Tel	78¾	78¾	78¾	78¾	78¾	78¾	78¾
Quicksilver	----	----	----	----	----	----	----
Pacific Mail	54¾	54¾	54¾	54¾	54¾	54¾	54¾
Adams Express	93¾	----	93¾	----	93¾	----	----
Wells, Fargo & Co	93¾	----	93¾	----	93¾	----	----
American Express	60¾	----	60¾	----	60¾	----	----
United States Express	49¾	----	49¾	----	49¾	----	----
New York Central	93¾	93¾	93¾	93¾	93¾	93¾	93¾
Erie	25¾	25¾	25¾	25¾	25¾	25¾	25¾
Michigan Central	104	104	104	104	104	----	----
Michigan Southern	89¾	89¾	89¾	89¾	89¾	89¾	89¾
Illinois Central	----	----	----	----	----	----	----
Cleveland and Pittsburgh	----	----	----	----	----	----	----
Chicago and N. W	89	89	89	89	89	89	89
Chicago and N. W. pref	92¾	92¾	92¾	92¾	92¾	92¾	92¾
Rock Island	104¾	104¾	104¾	104¾	104¾	104¾	104¾
St. Paul	35¾	35¾	35¾	35	34¾	34	----
St. Paul pref	65¾	65¾	65¾	65¾	----	65	66¾
Wabash	28¼	28¼	28¼	28¼	28¼	28	28¼
Wabash pref	----	----	----	----	----	----	----
Fort Wayne	93¾	93¾	93¾	93¾	93	----	----
Ohio and Mississippi	45¾	45¾	45¾	45¾	----	----	----
Union Pacific	25¾	25¾	25¾	25¾	25	25	25¾
Chicago and Alton	----	----	----	----	----	----	----
Boston, Hart. and Erie	----	----	----	----	----	----	----
Harlem	134	134	132¾	132¾	----	----	----
New Jersey Central	----	----	----	----	----	----	----
C. C. and I. C	----	----	----	----	----	----	97
Hannibal and St. Jo	----	----	----	----	----	----	----
Iron Mountain	----	----	----	----	----	----	----
Atlantic Mail	----	----	----	----	----	----	----

—Messrs. Robinson Bros., bankers, No. 75 Fourth avenue furnish the following quotations of active stock on the Philadelphia Stock Board to-day's:

Penna. Central	94½
Reading	97¾
United Companies	73
Oil Creek	92¼
Lehigh Valley	89¾
Pitts. and Erie	94¾
Lehigh Navigation	38
Central Transportation	47

Wool and Woolens.

[From the New York Bulletin, 15th.]

The condition of the market for wool and woolen fabrics at present is one of manufacturers, while there are indications which favor the belief that prices have about touched bottom, there is still an unhealthy tone prevailing. Manufacturers, depressed by the slow sale which goods are meeting, have operated very cautiously in wool for some weeks past, and as each succeeding lot of a few thousand pounds taken by them has been at a lower rate than the preceding one, their confidence in the stability of values upon the raw material is thoroughly shaken. The course of the trade for the past three or four months has been a disappointment alike to dealers in the raw material and manufacturers of goods.

It was generally believed that the losses at Boston last November would so far clear out the stock of both wool and woolens that the liberal sales of the latter, for which the outlook was favorable, would result in a scarcity and sustain advanced rates. The salvage proved to be greater than was expected, but the losses reduced the purchasing ability of the general trade to an extent wholly unlooked for. These results were unfavorable for the maintenance or even establishment of high prices, and before the first of the current year goods had settled to rates in previous rates. Wool held up mostly until near February, when prices began drooping, and the tendency of the market since that time has been steadily downward. A comparison of prices will be interesting here, and we annex the quotations current on leading grades of the staple at different periods within a year:

	July 1st, 1872.	Jan. 1st, 1873.	Apl 14th, 1873.
X and XX fleece	65@70	60@70	50@55
Super pulled	75@80	68@65	45@50
Tub washed	75@80	70@75	50@53
Cape	70@75	68@43	42@45

While the raw material has declined very considerably, goods have not undergone so important a shrinkage in values, though the business figures fall off somewhat since the first of the year, and all grades have failed to realize the improvement which was anticipated in the settlement of last fall. Trade throughout the country has been prostrated more or less by the uncertainty of the past winter and the protracted stringency in money, yet in the face of these unfavorable conditions manufacturers of the staple and desirable woolens have found very little difficulty in disposing of their product at full rates. This fact suggests a possible explanation to the difficulty that has been experienced in moving the lower grades of goods, and one of which many manufacturers have themselves admitted the truth of, namely, the use of shoddy, cotton, bamboo and other cheap materials as substitutes for wool in the poorer qualities of goods. The rises of people who wear cheap clothing are chief sufferers from shoddy, and goods as desirable of this essential quality as many of the fabrics turned out by American manufacturers during the past year and more are certain to be, the case of fabrics to which they belong into disrepute. Consumers have often to purchase more high-class and durable goods, and increased sales of foreign and fine domestic woolens have been the result. Our enormous imports of woolens and yarns have included large amounts of woolens, and with full supplies these goods have been introduced to such an extent as to commend them to purchasers in preference to any but the most carefully made American goods. This is no unjust ridicule upon American productions, for it must be admitted that the manufacturers of heavy woolens, as a country, with very few exceptions, have, during the past few years, given more attention to immediate pecuniary gain than to bringing their goods up to the standard of excellence of foreign productions. The spring trade is now well launched, and there is but little prospect of an improved tone to the market during the remainder of the season. The stock in jobbing hands would be heavy for this time of year, although it is largely in excess of the current requirements of the trade. New goods have been taken from the hands for the fall trade as yet, and there is no indication that the usual early buyers will begin to operate much in advance of their wants. Prices are low, but if sales were upon a scale of any magnitude there would probably be some profit to manufacturers at the current rates on the raw material.

The decline and present weakness in wool is associated in no small degree with the dullness in the goods trade, but is more directly due to the overstock of wool which had been permitted to accumulate in this country for some two years. The high prices reached in 1871 encouraged the increased production of wool throughout the country, and as the production grew the consumption gradually decreased (the high cost of goods checking sales), Our importers were induced to bring in large amounts of foreign wools last year, and these have helped to crowd out domestic grades, though much of the foreign stock so'd this year has paid a heavy loss to the importer. At present there is a surplus of wool the world over, and so far as our own country is concerned the only way out of the difficulty seems to be a diminution of the imports both of goods and material. Let American manufacturers gauge their production by the requirements of consumption upon the consumption of goods in this country, and then strive constantly to bring their goods up to the level in all respects of foreign fabrics, and the success of the woolen interest becomes fixed. Wool will always be obtainable at a reasonable figure if our imports are kept down to the amount required to make up the deficiency in our own clip, exceptday when the excessive demands of the farmers render it necessary for manufacturers to draw their supplies from abroad. The demands are almost largely instrumental in bringing about the general advance in foreign producing countries, and were there less fitting between our wool producers and dealers here, the irregularities in prices abroad, so far as they are influenced by our trade, might be avoided.

Cincinnati Coal Market.

April 15.—A fair amount was received during the week, and additional supplies are on the way. Prices are unchanged. We quote: Ohio river, 9¾@10c; Pittsburgh, 13c. and cannel, 18c. about. The rates delivered to consumers are Baltic for Ohio river; Raise for Kanawha; 18c for Pittsburgh, and 24c for cannel.

PRODUCE AND GENERAL MARKETS.

OFFICE OF THE PITTSBURGH COMMERCIAL, WEDNESDAY, April 16, 1873.

REMARKS.—We regret that we cannot truthfully report an active market. And we may here remark that business men differ so widely in their views as to the cause of the present dullness of the market, and we are all at sea, and have concluded for the present, to be "a looker on in Venice," promising to keep the reader fully advised of the changing phases of the markets.

The following are the receipts of the leading articles of produce received for the past two weeks:

	Last week.	This week.	Total.
Flour, bbls	5,406	10,639	
Apples, bbls	2,089	1,920	4,009
Cheese, boxes	38	76	111
Corn, sacks	3,423	661	4,234
Wheat, sacks	4,412	2,038	6,450
Barley, sacks	5,039	3,052	8,091
Rye, sacks	300	616	916
Oats, sacks	8,029	8,068	16,097
Butter, packages	214	172	386
Bacon, pieces	1,029	5,556	6,585
Bacon, tierces	463	560	1,023

In the meantime the rulings of the market will be given below, the rates being wholesale unless otherwise noted:

APPLES—Receipts 105 barrels. Prices range from $1 @ barrel to $2 25, the latter being an outside figure for a fancy choice article.

APPLE BUTTER—Sales at 45@55c @ gallon.

ASHES—Common soda, ash 4¾@4¾c; refined 6 3c; pots 9½@9¾; pearls 11c; arsenic 3½@3½c; nitrate soda 4¾@5c; black lead 6c.

ALCOHOL—At $2 @ bbl; XX $10; porter $10; India ale $11.

BACON AND PROVISIONS—We have no new feature to report with regard to this branch of trade. The market is reported active and strong, with an upward tendency in prices. We quote, from actual sales, as follows: canvassed hams 14½c; S. C. shoulders 9c; canvassed do 10c; plain shoulders 8c; rib sides 9½c; clear sides 10c; canvassed breakfast bacon 12½c; plain do 10c; canvassed dried beef 18c; plain do 16½c; mess pork $17 50; ham sausage 10c; leaf lard, in tierces, 9½c; refined, in tierces, 10c; in half bbls, 10½c; in kegs and buckets 11c. Receipts, tierces, 302.

BUTTER—Receipts 40 packages. The market is unsettled and prices range lower. We are reported sales prime roll, suitable for table use, at 32@35c @ 5c; medium to good 28@30c; common to plain, tubs 26@28c @ lb.

BANNER BAKING POWDER—Sales, 5 lb cans at $37 @ doz; 1 lb cans $5; ½ lb cans $3; ¼ lb cans $1 60.

BEANS—The demand continues fair for prime white navy at $2 @ bbl.

BROOM CO—Sales reported at 37½@45c; green 5@6c; fair 55@67c

BARLEY—Penn Mill rates: two bushel 82c; two and a half bushel 92c; three bushel 83c.

BUCKWHEAT—Sales reported at 3½@3¾c @ lb.

CONCENTRATED LYE—Current price $7 50@8 00 @ case.

CHEESE—Receipts 76 boxes. The market is reported moderately active at the following quotations: Goshen 15@16c; Factory 14@15c; Dairy 11@13c; Skims 5@6c.

CANVAS OIL—The ruling rates of the market are as follows: 12½@16c for car lots, with the usual advance from jobbers in jobbing quantities.

CANDLES—Sales of Sockets and Carey's varieties reported at 22@23c; Western 21@21½.

CIDER—Small sales at 6@8 @ barrel.

COUNTRY BACON—Demand fair, with sales as follows: Hams 9c; plain shoulders 6½c; sides 8c; jowls 5c; dressed hogs 5@5½c @ lb. Country Mill Feed—Bran $16 @ ton; chopped corn and oats $1 40; chopped corn $1 35; bolted corn meal $1 35.

MAPLE SUGAR AND SYRUP—Maple sugar 10@10c, cash; rates 12@15c @ lb. Syrup $1 20@1 25 @ gallon, jug included.

HOMINY—Sales at $4 @6@4 50 @ bbl.

LARD OIL—Sales No. 1 at 70@72; jobbing lots 72@75c.

ONIONS—Sales of prime to choice silverskins at $5 50@7 00 @ barrel; yellow $5 00@6 00; red $4 50@5 00 @ barrel. Onion sets $4 50@5 00 @ bush.

RAGS—Sales at 3½@3¾c @ lb.

SALT—Sales extra No 1 at $1 65 @ bbl; No 2 $1 15.

SAPOLIO—$6 00 @ case of 6 doz each.

SEEDS—Clover seed $5 00@5 50; timothy seed $3 50 @3 65; flaxseed $1 95@2 00 @ bush.

TALLOW—Sales at 8@8½c @ lb.

WHISKY—Highwines 89@91c @ gal.

PITTSBURGH OIL TRADE.

OFFICE OF THE PITTSBURGH COMMERCIAL, THURSDAY, April 17, 1873.

REMARKS.—The market continues firm, with a fair demand. In the oil regions a slight advance being established, producers have evidently made up their minds that their time is approaching. In our market there was but little done in the raw article, as Parker's prices have advanced, with sales at 32 33½ @ bbl, the highest point reached for some time. See dispatches for prices in other parts of the oil regions.

REFINED.

Firmer prices are looking up. April is quoted, free on cars, at 16¼c; May 16¾@16½c; Philadelphia delivery 19¼c @ gallon.

OIL BARRELS.

Demand active; country $1 90; city $2 00@2 05.

[By Western Union Line.]

TITUSVILLE, April 16.—The Courier says: The market remains firm at all points, with few sellers at the advanced prices, bidders accepting better figures. On the road $2 25 was bid for the day, and there were more buyers than sellers. The market closed firm.

500 bbls upper road, spot.....$2 32
500 bbls upper road, spot.....2 35@
500 bbls lower upper spot.....2 25
1,000 bbls lower road, spot.....2 37½@
500 bbls lower road, June.....2 55
500 bbls Oil City, spot.....2 50
1,000 bbls Oil City, spot.....2 55
1,000 bbls Parker's, spot.....2 34½@
2 37½.

TITUSVILLE, April 16.—Market firm at $2 35.

FRANKLIN, April 16.—Market unchanged at $2 10.

PETROLEUM CENTER, April 16.—Market unchanged at $2 10.

OIL CITY, April 16.—Market quiet and firm at $2 30; upper road $2 and $2 50; lower road $2 35.

PHILADELPHIA, April 16.—Crude 19½c; crude in bulk 8½c; crude delig'd, S. W. 19½c; crude in bulk 8½c; cases 24½c; sales none; futures, May, 19½c.

NEW YORK, April 16.—Crude 19½c; refined 20½c.

PARKER'S, April 16.—Market firm to-day; $2 30 @2 32½ 30 asked; no sellers.

WINDSOR, April 16.—Market firm at $2 35@2 37½.

TIDIOUTE, April 16.—Market firm at $2 30.

OIL CITY, April 16.—Market firm at $2 30@2 35; not much doing.

PHILADELPHIA, April 16.—Refined 19½c; crude 8½c in bulk; tanking 20½c; firm.

NEW YORK, April 16.—Crude 10½; refined 20½c.

WRAPPING PAPER.

OFFICE OF THE PITTSBURGH COMMERCIAL, THURSDAY, April 17, 1873.

Ruling papers.....@36c
Manila papers.....36@36 10c; 12 13 and 15c @ lb
Hardware papers.....@36c; 13 and 15c @ lb
Fine wrapping papers.....@ and 5c @ lb
Rag wrapping papers.....4½ and 5c @ lb
Felt papers.....4@4½ and 5c @ lb
Straw papers.....@50c @ bdl
Medium.....@55c @ bdl
Double Crown.....@1 00 @ bdl

HORSE SHOES.

OFFICE OF THE PITTSBURGH COMMERCIAL, THURSDAY, April 17, 1873.

The following are the rates at which manufacturers sell to the jobbers:

Horse shoes, @ keg 100 lb iron	$6 25
Horse shoes, @ keg 75 lb iron	6 50
Horse shoes, @ keg, 50 lb iron	6 75
Mule shoes, @ keg, $1 00 higher.	

Buffalo Live Stock Market.

BUFFALO, April 16.—Cattle—Receipts to-day 881 head; making a total for the week of 5,334 head; market to a little lower; as compared with to-day's prices; sales 810 Illinois steers, 1,023 to 1,402 lbs, at $4 75a 5 60; 14 Illinois oxen, 1,703 lbs, at $5 75; 12 Indiana steers, 1,525 lbs, at $4 12½; 46 Missouri steers, 1,084 to 1,315 lbs, at $5 75@5 25; 16 Missouri oxen, 1,348 lbs, at $5 90; 54 Texas steers, 1,120 lbs, at $5 05; 18 Ohio steers, 1,160 lbs, at $5 62½. Sheep and Lambs—Receipts to-day 1,200 head; total for the week 5,400 head; market slow and dragging, light receipts and at about yesterday's prices; sales 145 Michigan sheep, 87 to 92 lbs, at $5 00@5 50. Hogs—Receipts today 1,500 head; total for the week 25,600 head; market fair; no sales up to noon; prices nominal at $5 50 @5 75.

	HAZLEWOOD & BLACKSTOCK SOLD.				
No.	Weight.	Price.	No.	Weight.	Price.
19	18,550	$5 75	17	17,750	$5 65
2	2,300	5 87	3	3,500	5 75
13	12,700	6 00	10	9,800	5 90
15	30,950	6 80	17	30,550	5 50
16	29,750	6 10	18	29,450	5 60
16	29,250	6 20	bulls	21,850	4 25
20	37,950	6 30		41,400	4 75
22	56,400	6 12			
	HEDGES, HUFF & CO. SOLD.				
30	27,500	$6 10	2	2,150	$4 50
7	9,220	6 12	9	10,400	5 75
14	15,150	6 00	1	910	5 00
2	2,040	4 75	2	1,800	5 00
7	7,220	6 25	4	4,250	5 75
4	4,620	6 60	4	4,200	5 75
17	17,450	6 75	8	8,000	5 75
14	15,520	6 80	25	24,000	5 50
8	12,240	6 85	20	20,000	5 60
12	12,550	6 90	20	19,650	5 70
14	15,000	6 95	2	1,900	5 75
1	1,000	4 00			
	HOLMES, LAFFERTY & CO. SOLD				
5	5,000	$5 25	3	2,830	$5 50
1	1,080	6 50	4	3,960	6 10
1	1,460	6 00	1	960	6 25
7	6,900	6 30	10	10,570	6 35
2	2,030	6 40	2	2,000	6 50
2	2,220	6 60	1	1,000	6 75
4	4,020	6 70	4	4,000	6 80
12	12,000	6 85	2	2,020	6 90
2	2,000	6 95	2	2,000	7 00
1	1,000	7 10	1	1,000	7 20
1	1,000	7 25	1	1,000	7 30
1	1,000	7 40	1	1,000	7 50
1	1,000	7 60	1	1,000	7 70
1	1,000	7 80	1	1,000	7 90
1	1,000	8 00			

	Sheep.				
	HAZLEWOOD & BLACKSTOCK SOLD.				
No clipped.	Weight.	Price.	No.	Weight.	Price.
179	17,720	$5 70	159	15,290	$5 50
	HEDGES, HUFF & CO. SOLD.				
156	13,850	$5 60	156	16,420	$5 80
68	6,660	5 60@30		21,070	6 00
204	24,450	6 00@10		5,040	6 00
99	9,100	6 00	50	5,020	6 00
39	10,250	6 00	30	2,130	5 80
160	16,250	6 00@50		14,290	7 00
168	16,050	6 00			
	HOLMES, LAFFERTY & CO. SOLD				
130	10,410	$6 40@90		11,520	$6 70
100	8,660	6 40@50		11,040	6 75
333	28,880	6 00@50		39,120	6 25
208	17,270	6 00@50		20,960	6 50
242	21,450	6 00@50		24,000	6 75
197	15,890	6 00@10		18,770	6 30
1	68,200	6 00@10		15,040	6 40
242	22,562	6 00@50		22,820	6 60
213	16,314	6 00@65		14,910	6 70
224	14,770	6 00@30		23,300	6 80
	HAZLEWOOD & BLACKSTOCK SOLD.				
67	5,600	$6 00@15		1,480	$4 50
60	6,000	6 75@14		16,110	5 25
70	6,420	6 30@50		9,330	5 75
134	20,850	6 40@62		16,900	6 80
186	19,500	6 50@75			

ALLEGHENY LIVE STOCK MARKET.

OFFICE OF THE PITTSBURGH COMMERCIAL, MONDAY, April 14, 1873.

Cattle.

The receipts of cattle by the different railroads centering at the Allegheny yards have been some forty-eight car loads, or eight hundred and eighty head. In addition to these there were about one hundred head from the surrounding counties of Washington, Greene and Butler, making in all over nine hundred and eighty or one thousand head of cattle as the total offerings. The market opened up slow and dull, and with the exception of the ruling on a few strictly prime cattle continued so until the close. The lenten season being over, drovers expected a fair market, and of course held cattle firm. The market did not turn out to be as good as expected and as above noted, with the exception of a few prime cattle, trade ruled slow and dull. All the transient drovers complain of the high price of cattle in the country, and say they cannot be brought here to make any money. We are of the opinion that cattle are held higher in the country than at the regular markets, and until the matter gets balanced we hear the usual complaints about losses, &c. On the whole, the market was pretty much the same as last week, a few good cattle selling well and talk slow at losing prices.

Stockers.

The number of stockers on sale to-day was small. The attendance of buyers was the largest of the season. The market was slow, on account of the limited quality of the stock on sale. The buyers held back, and drovers held firm, and it took a good deal of talk to convince farmers that drovers were not making big prices. From the look of things, we are of the opinion that the number of stock cattle that will be offered on sale this spring will be small. Our farmers do not want to pay more here for stock cattle than they cost in Chicago, and on this account is to be noted the small number on sale here. Below will be found the prices of cattle, as given by actual sales, also the arrivals as reported by Mr. Charles Green, the efficient yardmaster at the Allegheny station:

Arrivals.

CATTLE.

	Cars.
Marks & Bro., Chicago	2
M. Varner, Chicago	2
Theo. Kestner, Chicago	1
Hazlett & Co., Chicago	1
W. Moonshine, Chicago	2
Greenwald & K., Chicago	1
Hazlett & Co., Chicago	1
Orr & Williams, Chicago	1
Mc. Mc'Connell, Chicago	1
S. Lowenthal, Chicago	2
H. Kent, Chicago	2
C. Mc'Connell, Chicago	1
J. Sandusky, Chicago	1
S. Wood, Indianapolis	1
Bond & Pollock, Urville	1
J. Mitchell, Orrville	1
C. Neely, Bellaire	1
E. E. Wagner, Harview	1
J. Schilling, Union	1
D. Gilmore, Steubenville	1
J. Zeigler, Crestline	1
John Orr, Orrville, Crestline	1
H. Roebuck, C. Dover	1
Total	48

HORSES.

	Cars.
J. Rinderbrother, East Liberty	1
J. Strieber, Waynesburg	1
Total	2

CATTLE.

	Cars.
J. Miller, Orrville	1
Alex. Wilson, Columbiana	1
John Shirley, Bayard	1
Total	3

Sales.

Smith & Evans sold 22 head Chicago cattle at figures ranging from $5 50 to $6 50.

Hickman sold 1 head Chicago cattle at figures from $5 50 to $6 25; 1 head Ohio cattle at $5 25; 1 head Ohio at $5 75; 1 head Ohio at $5 50; 1 head Chicago cattle from 6c to 7c.

Mahrer, Laffertz & Co. sold 11 head Ohio cattle at figures from 5c to 5½ @ lb.

Hazlett & Co. sold 7 head Chicago cattle from 6 to 6½c.

Hazlett & Co. sold 2 loads Ohio cattle at figures from $5 25 to $5 50.

Seigloff & Lobeman sold 2 load Chicago cattle at figures from $5 75 to $7 00.

M. Krause sold 31 head cattle at figures ranging from $6 00 to $6 75.

Jacob Shamberg sold 2 loads cattle at various prices.

Hazlewood & Blackstock sold 17 head Chicago cattle from $5 75 to $6 50.

John Hartman sold 2 loads cattle from Ohio at private terms.

John Hartman sold 2 loads Chicago cattle at figures from $5 90 to $6 70.

Louis Gerson sold 1 load Chicago cattle at figures from $6 00 to $6 25; also to head Ohio cattle from $5 50 to $6 00.

New York Finance and Trade.

Gold Closed at 117¾@117¾.

NEW YORK, April 16, 1873.—P. M.

THE MONEY MARKET.

The pressure in the money market has resulted in some serious consequences, including a general decline in values. On the Stock Exchange the failure of the firm of Fisk & Hilles was announced at two o'clock, causing a general panicky feeling in which there was a fall of ½ to 7¾ per cent. in values. The house was supposed to be the confidential agents of Commodore Vanderbilt, the senior member being his nephew, and the junior his grandson. Under the announcement of their inability to meet engagements, stocks were thrown overboard, amidst the wildest confusion, for any price. The failure is understood to be the result of carrying Union Pacific, Lake Shore, Western Union and New York Central stocks in the extremely stringent money market of the past three weeks, the daily large commissions having eaten up the profits of the firm and so taxed those of its customers that they were unable to respond. Other operations are rumored but not confirmed. The market finally rallied to a considerable extent from the extreme depression, under the influence of indications that the worst is over. It is the general belief that the financial storm will clear the atmosphere and that Wall street is on the eve of a better condition of affairs. There are many symptoms of the persistency of street parties on the usury matter and the claim is that but for their intervention the ratio of to-day would not have occurred.

THE CURRENCY.

Money scarce and dearer to-day. Early business on call was at ¼@¾ per diem, but during the afternoon rates advanced to ¾@¾, and after three o'clock dealings were at ¾@¾ per cent. Just before our close there was a sale at ¾ per cent. Some companies received of a million and three quarters to-day. Outstanding legal tenders show a decrease of $760,000.

EXCHANGE.

Foreign exchange heavy, and sales were made for sixty days sterling down to 107 for prime bankers' and 108 to 108 1-16 for sight, while cable transfers are offered at 108¾, cash, to-morrow.

GOLD.

Gold weak early in the day, and fell to 117¼, afterwards became firmer, rising to 117½, but finally declined to 117¼@117¾. Sales at 117¼ early, 117¾ at carrying, and flat for borrowing. Clearings $194,000,000. The Treasury disbursed $162,000, being receipts $119,000. The Treasury sells one million and a half to-morrow.

GOVERNMENTS.

Governments dull and closing feverish.

		Quarts	Pints.
U. S. coup 1881	118¾@118¾	Champagne, "Chas. Heidsieck"	$27 00	$29 00
" 1881	116¾@116¾	Champagne, Anheuser	18 00	20 00
" 1867	115¾@115¾	Champagne, "Gold Seal"	18 00	20 00
" 1868	118¾@118¾	Highwines	89@92c	
" 10-40s	112¾@112¾			
" 1865, new	115¾@115¾			
" 1865, 5-20s	115¾@115¾			

STATE BONDS.

State bonds neglected.

Missouri 6s	92	Virginia, old	40
Tennessee 6s, old	70	North Carolina, old	30
Tennessee 6s, new	68	North Carolina, new	16
Virginia, new	43		

STOCK EXCHANGE.

During the first half hour of business on the Stock Exchange an advance of ¾ to ¾ per cent. was made and the market was quiet. After a fair selling movement prevailed at the first board and prices by noon were slightly lower. During second call the market was very irregular, and a further decline occurred of nearly eight per cent., Western Union falling to 78, Lake Shore to 93¾, Michigan Southern to 89¾, Erie to 25¾, Rock Island to 104¾, Wabash to 42, Union Pacific to 25, Ohio to 40¾, and Cleveland, Columbus and Cincinnati to 93, Fort Wayne to 120, and St. Paul to 34. Subsequently there was a recovery of from ¾ to 2 per cent. in the fancy stocks above mentioned, and the market closed quite strong. At a meeting here to-day of the Directors of the Columbus, Chicago and Indiana Central Railroad, it was determined to enter into arrangements to secure the first mortgage bonds of all connecting lines East and West. The contract with the Lake Erie and Louisville Railway was perfected, making the Columbus, Chicago and Indiana Central an important coal road. $1,142,000 cancelled gold certificates were sent to Washington today.

Canton	85	St. Paul preferred	67¾
Western Union Tel	78¾	Wabash preferred	42¾
Quicksilver	35	Wabash preferred	84
Adams Express	93¾	Fort Wayne	93
Wells, Fargo & Co	93¾	Terre Haute	40
American Express	60¾	Terre Haute pref	40
United States Ex	49¾	Terre Haute pref	80
Pacific Mail	54¾	Ohio and Miss	45¾
N. Y. Central	93¾	Ohio and Miss. pref	49¾
Erie	25¾	Ohio and Miss. pref	93
Erie preferred	74	Burlington & Quincy	108
Harlem	132	Panama	95
Harlem preferred	126	Panama	96½
Michigan Central	104	Illinois Central	119¾
Lake Shore	93¾	Illinois Central, leased	97
Northwestern	74	Central Pacific	102¾
Northwestern pref	92	Ohio Central	30
Rock Island	105¾	Del. & Lackawanna	95
St. Paul	35¾	Hartford and Erie	13¾
St. Paul preferred	67¾	Quicksilver Bills	10¾

MARKETS BY TELEGRAPH.

Chicago Market.

CHICAGO, ILL., April 16, 1873.

FLOUR—Quiet and unchanged.

GRAIN—Wheat steady, with a moderate demand; No 2 spring cash $1 04; regular $1 20 fresh; cash $1 03; seller May; $1 24¾ do June; No 3 do cash $1 01; seller May $1 20¾; No 4 cash 96c. Corn excited and prices higher; No 2 mixed 34¾@34½c, regular cash; 35c seller May; rejected scarce; sales at 34¾c. Oats in demand and higher; sales mixed 2 No 2, 27¾c cash; 28¾c seller May. Rye—Demand light, and the advance from the East continues favorable, buyers took hold very freely, purchasing cattle at an advance of fully 4c

Weekly Commercial.

SATURDAY, APRIL 19, 1873.

THE Secretary of the Treasury has just decided that strips of iron rolled in pieces from seventeen or eighteen feet in length by eight inches in width and three-sixteenths of an inch thick, are dutiable at the rate of one and a quarter cents per pound, less ten per cent. This decision is of considerable importance to one of our largest industrial interests.

THE Commissioner of the General Land office is reported to be strongly in favor of abolishing the pre-emption land laws and consolidating the best features of it with the homestead law. The pre-emption law, as it now stands, is declared to be merely an incentive to perjury, but few instances occurring in which old land owner was a bona fide settler for the period provided for in the pre-emption law. The matter will be brought to the attention of Congress at its next session.

AN anecdote is related of Secretary RICHARDSON by the Boston papers, which shows a delicacy and sense of the fitness of things not so common as it should be among public men. Upon receiving his appointment as Secretary of the Treasury he resigned his place as a director of the Appleton National bank, and gave directions for the sale of his bank stock, realizing the incompatibility of maintaining his connection with a National bank while occupying the position of Secretary of the Treasury.

WESTERN papers have of late indulged in a good many fond anticipations concerning the proposed enlargement of the Canadian canals, and the consequent increase of accommodations for ocean seeking for Midland. It turns out, however, that the Dominion government does not intend for the present to take any steps towards enlarging the St. Lawrence canals or removing the obstructions in the rapids, which would involve the still further enlargement of the Welland. This is the policy of the government as stated in the official reports, and the opposition concurs in it, so far as may be judged from the utterances of its organs.

A PERSON by the name of O'KELLY has been "placed where he will do the most good." The *Herald's* nice little plot to embroil the government of the United States in a quarrel with the Spanish authorities in Cuba, and compel the former to espouse the cause of the Cuban insurgents, has come to naught. The officials at Washington have discovered that O'KELLY is not an American citizen, and is therefore not entitled to its protection. This is very sad. Let the *Herald* try again; and let it be sure to "put none but Americans on guard," when it next chooses "commissioners." The present slaughterous utterances of that paper are wholly "foreign" to the purpose.

MUCH satisfaction is expressed by the English papers at the prompt and cordial cooperation of our government with that of Great Britain in the steps necessary to bring to justice the persons suspected of complicity in the great fraud recently effected upon the Bank of England. "No better proof," says the London *Times*, "could be afforded of the excellent relations which subsist between the respective governments, than their prompt cooperation to secure the ends of justice and to punish the supposed authors of a wide reaching and almost ingenious conspiracy, which, if successful, would have seriously impaired the security of the most essential operations of commerce."

WE HAVE heretofore spoken of the encouragement to be derived from an inspection of the statistics of our manufactured exports for the last eight months of 1872, as compared with the corresponding period of the preceding year. In this list, which enumerates thirty-six commodities, there is an increase of twenty-six per cent. in the aggregate, and a gain in all but six. Incomplete returns for the same quarter of 1873 show a similar growth over that of last year; the exports of four principal ports—New York, Boston, Philadelphia and San Francisco—showing a gain of $16,602,297 during the period in question, or an increase of upwards of twenty-three per cent. This is every way encouraging.

THE free-traders conundrum, "Does protection protect?" is receiving solution in unlooked for quarters. Says the *Iron Trade Circular*, a leading organ of the British manufacturing interests: "The ascendance of the Protectionist party in the United States continues to operate most favorably for the manufacturing interests there, and it is no wonder that, under its benignant auspices, the enterprise in this direction is swelling to colossal proportions. The whole subject is one demanding the serious attention of our manufacturers." Counter remarks are now in order from the opponents of the development of our home resources, the encouragement of home sale, and the employment of labor at living wages.

HERETOFORE the gold coins of the United States, however worn by natural abrasion, were a legal tender for their face value. Under the act of February 12, 1873, however, their legal tender value, as between private individuals, is limited to their actual proportion of standard value, outside of the variation allowed to the coiner at the mint. The purpose of the act is to retire the coins that are worn below the standard, and to send them to the mint to be recoined. Some temporary inconvenience is being occasioned in financial circles by the operations of the law, for the reason that there are very few pieces of coin in circulation, unless just from the mint, which do not vary more than "the limit of tolerance" from the standard weight.

THE Postoffice Department calls the attention of publishers to the necessity of arranging their business to conform to the new postal regulation cutting off the transmission of free mail matter after the 30th of June. Under the act of March 3d, all exchanges between publishers, and weekly newspapers which are printed in the county where delivered, are excluded from free circulation. After that date all newspapers and periodicals now sent free will be subject to the following quarterly rates of postage:

"On each publication 4 ounces in weight, sent to any part of the United States: weekly, 5 cents; semi-weekly, 10 cents; tri-weekly, 15 cents; six times a week, 30 cents; daily, 35 cents. Exceeding 4 ounces and not exceeding 8 ounces, 10, 20, 30, 60 and 70 cents. Exceeding 8 ounces and not exceeding 12 ounces, 15, 30, 45, 90 cents, and $1 05. Exceeding 12 ounces and not exceeding 16 ounces, 20, 40, 60 cents, $1 20 and $1 40."

THOUGH fewer than are commonly supposed yet a good many are in favor of substituting perpetual imprisonment for hanging as the penalty for murder. Some of these philanthropists evidently need enlightenment as to the measure of rigor with which the milder punishment of limited imprisonment is carried out in some of the States. Such illustrative of this point as they turn up ought not to be neglected by the newspapers. A year ago or more one JAMES B. SNOW was convicted in Missouri of murder under peculiarly aggravated circumstances, as it was proved that he had pursued his victim over several States, and had at last treacherously slain him. The sentence of death passed upon SNOW was commuted by Governor BROWN into imprisonment for ten years, and now we learn that he has been pardoned. As we have seen no statement of the reasons assigned for the act, we cannot mention them; but we are bound in charity to suppose that they were good. The prerogative of mercy does not, we believe, reside in the person of the American Governor, as in the person of a hereditary monarch. The latter pardons in virtue of his own proper character as the sovereign of his people. As the catechism used to say, "the King's face should give grace." The Governor receives his power to pardon from a written constitution and for specific ends, and he is responsible to the people for the manner in which he exercises the power. It seems, however, that the people are sometimes very lenient in exacting reasons in such cases, and the consequence is that imprisonment for life is perhaps impossible among us.

NOTWITHSTANDING experience has fully shown that in the long run "a strike" very seldom succeeds but almost invariably recoils on the heads of its instigators, it is reported that a general labor strike is about to take place in all the principal towns and cities of the country. It seems almost incredible that, figuratively speaking, intelligent men should be so bent on cutting their own throats. Do they not see that by their blindness and folly they are, as in New York, driving capital from their own fields of labor to seek more remunerative investment elsewhere? For instance, in that city, a year ago, the building prospects were brighter than they had been since the late war. Then came the labor agitations, and the result is a withdrawal of over *twelve millions* from investment—a dead loss to the city—and a loss of over *six millions* to the workingmen themselves. We earnestly counsel workingmen everywhere to ponder these significant facts. Even in the few instances in which strikes have been successful to the same ameliorative results would most likely have been reached nearly or quite as soon, and certainly with far less friction and loss, by the operation of the simple law of supply and demand. In this country, where every man can stipulate for himself regarding his wages and hours of labor, the whole system of strikes is a colossal stupidity. It is to be hoped the workingmen of Pittsburgh may utterly refuse to countenance the blind and blundering folly.

THE LEGISLATURE.

It seems to have grown into a chronic habit with the newspapers in Pennsylvania to growl at and abuse the Legislature, especially when it adjourns finally. They have fallen into this groove and seem unable to get out of it. There is no pause to inquire whether the censures so liberally bestowed are just or unjust; but, as abuse is easy, they fall into it naturally and as a matter of course.

The Legislature which has just adjourned is no exception to this rule. It is abused and denounced as its predecessors have been, and about in the same terms and on the same accounts. It is arraigned because it passed so many bills; because it failed to pass any of overshadowing importance, and because it didn't pass the little schemes in which the writers of this abuse were personally interested. Whenever we see a paper particularly ferocious on the Legislature, we naturally conclude that some bill failed to pass in which somebody was specially interested. The measure of the guilt of the Legislature may be thus defined: "It has passed those bills which are of no use to us; and it has failed to pass those we wanted."

Now, we are far from believing that the members of the late Legislature were saints or profound statesmen; but we do know that the leading members in both Houses addressed themselves earnestly to the task of checking the tide of special legislation; that they labored vigorously to prevent hasty and ill-considered legislation; and that they accomplished a great deal more than they get credit for. The Speakers of both Houses did their best to prevent the introduction of bills in cases where the Courts have power, and the Speaker of the House, particularly, was inexorable in his rulings on this point, thereby excluding many improper bills, and preventing the attempt to introduce others of a similar kind; and the committees of both Houses sifted rigidly and carefully the bills referred to them, reporting more bills, negatively, than were ever so reported before.

The number of bills reported to the House was, in round numbers, 2,300, and to the Senate 2,000. This, notwithstanding the unusual pressure from all quarters to obtain chartered privileges, was *less* than last year and for several years previous. Of this number about 300 were reported negatively and not acted on; a very large number were negatived and postponed on second or third reading; and a still larger number were never acted on at all. At no previous session of the Legislature has there been so large an accumulation of bills that failed to pass; and this one fact is, we think, very creditable to both bodies.

The last session of the Legislature sent nearly thirteen hundred bills to the Governor; this one, we are assured, has sent a much less number; and we firmly trust and believe that the tide of special legislation has passed its flood and is now fairly on the ebb.

The complaint that the Legislature has passed no measure of great importance is answered by the fact that no measure of great importance was presented in time for consideration. It passed on all that came before it, and many measures of doubtful value and mischievous in their tendency were squelched by it. Every bill offered, that was intended to limit and restrain special legislation, was passed. Let us specify:

It passed a bill giving the Governor power to appoint Notaries Public at his discretion. This cut off a very fruitful source of special legislation, inasmuch as, heretofore, from fifty to one hundred bills were passed every session authorizing the appointment of additional notaries;

It extended the powers of the Courts in granting charters, enumerating several new classes of charters that may thus be granted;

It passed a general law, very liberal in its provisions, for the incorporation of iron and steel companies and this was extended by a subsequent act to coke, paper, and several other classes of manufacturing companies, thereby cutting off another source of special legislation;

It fixed, clearly and distinctly, what kinds of property and how much shall hereafter be exempt from taxation, and repealed all special acts previously passed exempting from taxation property other than that thus specified. All other bills exempting property from taxation were defeated by this act;

It abolished the tax on net earnings of corporations and the tax on gross receipts, thus removing a heavy load that was burdening the productive industry of the State;

It passed a general insurance law, establishing an insurance department, and providing the needed legislation for the protection of those who have property insured.

It established, for the first time, a policy for the management of Normal Schools—a growing and important interest;

It passed a law for stocking the rivers of the State with fish;

It passed an Apportionment bill;

And finally, it passed an Appropriation bill in which the interests of the State were more carefully protected than usual.

To all this it may be added, to its credit that it repealed the ridiculous cumulative system of voting in boroughs, and refused to pass the bill authorizing the payment of claims for losses by border raids.

This is a fair record, and the fact that less than the usual number of bills was passed, notwithstanding the persistent pressure for their passage, from all quarters, is also to be taken into the account in making up a final judgment on the action of the Legislature.

We may be permitted to add that there was a steady and persistent desire shown, in both branches and by men of both parties, to watch and scrutinize legislation, and to prevent mischievous enactments. In the House Messrs. ORVIS and BROCKWAY on the Democratic side, and Messrs. MITCHELL, ELLIOTT, MCCORMICK, MAHON, NEWMEYER, BULLARD and CROSS on the Republican side, all have their undivided attention to this matter, and merit special mention therefor; and in the Senate the same may be said of Messrs. WALLACE and J. D. DAVIS on the Democratic side, Mr. MCCLURE on no side, and Messrs. WHITE, FITCH, RUTAN, DELAMATER, WARFEL and our own Senators on the Republican side. We do not mention these gentlemen for the purpose of drawing invidious distinctions; but to show that care, vigilance and industry were duly, steadily and continuously exercised.

On the whole, while there certainly may have been better Legislatures, there as certainly have been worse ones; and while all that was arrived at was not accomplished by those who appreciate the true sphere of legislation, much was, nevertheless, accomplished; and for the good that was done the Legislature deserves praise instead of blame.

THE VOTE ON THE NEW CONSTITUTION.

In the last week of the session of the Legislature Mr. BUCKALEW made his appearance in Harrisburg, was very busy in hand-shaking and holding private conferences, and was particularly active on the Democratic side in both Houses. His mission was kept very quiet; he talked only to those with whom he was familiar and on friendly terms; and no one suspected that he, of all others, had a little anaconda in his pocket that he wished to snake through. One of his pet themes on the stump was the viciousness of hasty legislation, and no one thought it possible that *he* could have any scheme on hand requiring railroad speed to put it through.

On one of the closing days of the session a bill was read in the Senate, giving to the Constitutional Convention full power and control over the whole question of submitting the new Constitution to a vote of the people. It was very adroitly worded, and *apparently* it was merely a provision for submitting to the Governor the proofs of the adoption or rejection of the Constitution. It was read hastily, the Senators were busily engaged looking after their bills, as is always the case at the close of a session, and it was declared to be harmless and all right. No one objecting, the bill went through; Mr. BUCKALEW attended in the transcribing room in person, to see that it was immediately sent over to the House; and it got over there, in consequence, with more promptness than usual.

In the House Mr. Speaker ELLIOTT detected the real character of the bill; but so insinuating and insidious had been Mr. BUCKALEW's personal labors there, that many of the Republican members were misled as to its real purport, and voted for it, securing its passage there, also. Very well satisfied with his work, Mr. BUCKALEW departed as quietly as he came, chuckling over his success and gratified, doubtless, that he had been able to run through an important bill in the shortest possible time.

The next morning after its passage, however, it was discovered that the bill was in Mr. BUCKALEW's handwriting, and that, notwithstanding the Jesuitical guile with which it was framed, it was still clear that its purpose was to give the Constitutional Convention the power to fix the time for holding the election on the new Constitution, and to enact an entirely new law prescribing how and by whom the election should be held. The law under which the choice of members to this Convention was made provided that the election to decide upon the adoption of the new Constitution should be held under the laws regulating all other elections in this State; and the purpose of this new bill was to repeal that provision, and give to the Convention full power to make a new election law and to erect itself into a tribunal to decide upon the validity of the returns. The dangerous character of this kind of legislation being thus discovered, a motion was made in the House to reconsider the vote by which the bill was passed, and this motion was not disposed of when the House adjourned finally, on the 10th.

The bill, therefore, fell. It was not disposed of finally, in the House, and therefore could not reach the Governor. The election on the new Constitution will consequently be held under the election laws of the State, and Mr. BUCKALEW's little scheme necessarily fails. No one but himself, we fancy, will cry over its defeat; and the people of the State have good reason to rejoice over this failure to railroad through such an important act of legislation.

THE PRESIDENT'S INDIAN POLICY.

The massacre of General CANBY and those who accompanied him, by the Modoc Indians, while engaged in the very act of carrying out the Peace policy of the President in his dealings with the Indian tribes, has very naturally aroused the indignation of the country and forced the government into a war upon the Modocs that must be one of extermination. The cry for vengeance is universal and right. The treacherous savages have put themselves beyond the pale of mercy and called down upon their own heads the sentence of death and extinction. The order of Gen. SHERMAN, to destroy them root and branch, as SAUL was directed to slay the Amalekites, was the right thing to do, and the only thing the government could be expected to do. So far, all are heartily agreed.

But we cannot understand nor join in the clamor against the Peace Commissioners as being responsible for this outrage, nor the conclusion drawn from it that the Peace policy is a failure and should therefore be abandoned. That it was a failure in this case, we admit; but it has succeeded so well and so fully in every other case, that we marvel at this precipitancy in condemning it because of a solitary failure. One swallow does not make a summer, nor one tree a forest; and one failure in attempting to carry out a Christian and humane policy towards a savage and ill-used people, is not an offset against the multitudinous instances of success in other cases. The cry for vengeance in this particular case is natural and just; but let us take good heed that the lust for vengeance does not lead us to unjust judgment. The Peace policy is to be judged on its merits, and in the full light of the history of all the efforts made in carrying it out with the various tribes, and not by this one, isolated instance of failure. The frenzy of indignation it has provoked will be nearly as bad as the crime which provoked it, if it leads us into the substitution of a harsh and bloody policy with all other tribes of Indians, for a peaceful and humane one.

The Peace policy towards the Indians, generally, by President GRANT, has done more to gain for him a warm place in the hearts of the Christian people of this land than anything else he has done. It was the substitution of fair-dealing for fraud, of kindness for harshness, and of Christianizing and civilizing influences for brutalizing ones. It looked forward to making the Indians an agricultural and civilized class, and to weaning them thus from the pursuits of hunting and war. It was charitable, kind and humanizing in all its length and breadth, and whether it has been or will be a failure, it was an experiment the government was bound to make, both for the sake of humanity and for the protection of the people on whose lands the Indians live. The trial of it has had but a few years test, and it has not failed, so far, except in this one melancholy case. To abandon it without further trial, solely on account of the unfortunate result in this instance, is unwise and unstatesmanlike. The Cherokees, the Choctaws, and various other tribes have been saved from extinction and educated up to the self-sustaining point; and something further than this failure with the Modocs is necessary to demonstrate that the same result cannot be reached with the SIOUX and other Indian tribes of the West. Let us not give up Modocs—they have forfeited the right to live; but let us not measure others' corn in their bushel. They are not a fair specimen of the Indian race, bad as that race is acknowledged to be, and the only wonder to us is that, with such unpromising materials to deal with, the Peace Commissioners have succeeded as well as they have.

ELECTION OF STATE TREASURER.

We publish, to-day, the bill passed by the late Legislature providing for an election of State Treasurer by the people. A perusal of it will satisfy all that the fuss made over it has nothing to warrant or justify it.

The adoption of the amendment to the Constitution, by the vote of the people, last year, making the State Treasurer elective by the people instead of by the Legislature, as heretofore, rendered it necessary to the passage of some bill for the purpose. Any failure of the Legislature to carry out the provisions of the new article of the Constitution would have been a wilful neglect of duty. This article provides that "A State Treasurer shall be chosen by the qualified electors of the State *at such time and for such term of service as shall be prescribed by law.*" The passage of a law for this purpose was therefore not only a constitutional duty but a constitutional necessity.

Yet a certain noisy and venomous, but uninfluential portion of the press of this State is clamoring to the Governor to veto this bill, and so render the constitutional provision void and inoperative. Why? Simply because the bill provides that the present State Treasurer shall hold his office until his successor is duly elected. That is the sole reason urged; and the clamorers for this policy, blind, and as full of venom as copperheads in August, cannot see that if the Governor yielded to their wish, they would therefore render certain the very thing they want to prevent.

For if the Governor vetoes this law, there are then no laws on the statute book to regulate the State Treasurer's office except those previously passed, and these would be left in full force and effect. The act of March 23, 1848, provides thus:

"The term of office of the State Treasurer shall hereafter commence on the first Monday of May next succeeding the general election, and continue for one year *or until his successor is duly qualified.*"

And the act of July 2, 1839, says:

"In case no State Treasurer is elected at the time prescribed by law, the Treasurer in office for the time being shall hold the office until a successor is appointed."

The veto of the bill now in the hands of the Governor would, therefore, throw us back upon the act of 1848, and thus the present State Treasurer would be continued in office until a successor was duly qualified, and under no circumstances could the next Legislature provide for holding an election that would enable his successor to qualify before the first of May, 1874. But further: If the Governor vetoes *this* bill, he will be compelled to veto all similar bills hereafter, and until two-thirds of both Houses could be got to pass a bill over his veto (a very rare thing), the present State Treasurer would continue in office. He might thus, if this foolish advice were carried out, be kept in office during the remainder of Governor HARTRANFT's term. The personal animosity of this little newspaper gang would thus most signally defeat itself.

The amendment to the Constitution, adopted by the overwhelming vote of the people, contemplated the passage of a bill by this Legislature to carry out their expressed will. The Legislature has performed the duty assigned it, as it was bound to do, and in doing so has framed the bill in accordance with the policy prescribed for the Treasurer's office by past legislation. It has followed the law of 1848 in fixing the time when the Treasurer's term shall commence, thus avoiding all possible disturbance to the financial affairs of the State, and also in providing that the present incumbent shall hold over until his successor is duly qualified. This is the well-settled policy of the State, and the Legislature has acted wisely in not departing from it. The bill is not enacted for the present alone, but for the future as well; and it very properly keeps to the old landmarks, refuses to disturb the routine which has not only worked well, but is thoroughly understood, and simply transfers the election of State Treasurer from the Legislature to the people, leaving all else to go on as heretofore, except in a few minor details.

THE Department of Agriculture has received answers from all parts of the country, to some questions propounded in a circular sent out last autumn, and the results elicited are of considerable value to the practical farmer. The monthly report for March contains answers regarding the rotation of crops, soil improvements, the relative profits of selling and feeding hay and grain, the most profitable branches of farming, value of farm lands compared with their value in 1860, and the causes of discouragement existing among farmers. In regard to rotation of crops the general result shown is, that there is no systematic rotation in any considerable portion of the United States. A thorough system is found only in a few counties in New England, the large number of towns and cities creating such a demand for garden products that rotation is very difficult. About a third of the reported counties in New York pursue a regular and uniform system; another third pursue a partial rotation, while the remainder seem to ignore it entirely. In a majority of counties in New Jersey crop rotation is the rule. In Pennsylvania but three counties are reported as entirely ignoring rotation. In Maryland rotation is general, but in some districts there is a decided tendency to excessive grain and grass cropping. Of the South Atlantic States Virginia shows the strongest tendency to crop rotation. About one-fourth of the counties in that State report somewhat regular routine. In North Carolina a majority of the counties report an entire absence of crop rotation. In South Carolina, Georgia, Arkansas, and in all the Gulf States, systematic rotation is very little thought of. In Tennessee, West Virginia and Kentucky an entire absence of systematic rotation is reported in a majority of counties. Of the States north of the Ohio river, considerable portions of Michigan and Wisconsin have been too recently settled to admit of any organized rotation system, but the tendency is in that direction. Rotation is the rule in about half the counties of Ohio, and in about one-third of those of Indiana. In Illinois two-thirds of the counties entirely ignore rotation, while of the remainder about one-half pay very little attention to it. In the States west of the Mississippi river, rotation is generally the rare exception, and destructive repetitions of particular crops are too frequent to mention. On the Pacific coast rotation is but little known, and the best wheat lands, which have astonished the world by their enormous production, are visibly declining in fertility. The Commissioner reasons from his answers of correspondents that home production for home consumption as a permanent policy is a more profitable policy than the opposite idea, that the profit of feeding hay and grain is greater than the profit of selling those products, and that manure produced by the farmer's stock is far more profitable and beneficial as a rule than commercial fertilizers. He also classes "middlemen" among the greatest evils that beset a farmer, often taking, he says, for a small service, when they combine, more than half the market value of a commodity, and leaving for the producer less than the cost of the production.

THE MODOC MASSACRE.

THE COMMERCIAL, as is well known, has from the first favored the Indian policy of the President, which may be epitomized as having for its object the prevention of the whites from oppressing and robbing the Indian, and the restraining of the Indian from committing outrages on the whites. The difference between this policy and that which it supplanted was, that whereas the latter tended to nourish the vices which belong to conscious degradation, the former tended to beget the virtues which belong to conscious progress. In a word, civilization or extermination are the only modes of solving the Indian problem; and, with the President, we have held that the former should be fairly tried first. Until it leads us into the substitution of a harsh and bloody policy with all other tribes of Indians, for a peaceful and humane one.

The Peace policy towards the Indians, generally, by President GRANT, has done more to gain for him a warm place in the hearts of the Christian people of this land than anything else he has done. It was the substitution of fair-dealing for fraud, of kindness for harshness, and of Christianizing and civilizing influences for brutalizing ones. It looked forward to making the Indians an agricultural and civilized class, and to weaning them thus from the pursuits of hunting and war. It was charitable, kind and humanizing in all its length and breadth, and whether it has been or will be a failure, it was an experiment the government was bound to make, both for the sake of humanity and for the protection of the people on whose lands the Indians live. The trial of it has had but a few years test, and it has not failed, so far, except in this one melancholy case. To abandon it without further trial, solely on account of the unfortunate result in this instance, is unwise and unstatesmanlike. The Cherokees, the Choctaws, and various other tribes have been saved from extinction and educated up to the self-sustaining point; and something further than this failure with the Modocs is necessary to demonstrate that the same result cannot be reached with the SIOUX and other Indian tribes of the West. Let us not give up Modocs—they have forfeited the right to live; but let us not measure others' corn in their bushel. They are not a fair specimen of the Indian race, bad as that race is acknowledged to be, and the only wonder to us is that, with such unpromising materials to deal with, the Peace Commissioners have succeeded as well as they have.

A Remarkable Career.

A correspondent at Beyrout writes to the *German Gazette* of Vienna:

I met to-day an old acquaintance, the camel driver, Sheikh Abdul, and he told me that his wife had died, and that he was no longer married. Her name was once known all through Europe. Sheikh Abdul is the ninth husband of Lady Ellenborough, whom I met for the first time nearly thirty years ago at Munich, just after she had eloped with Prince Schwarzenberg from the residence of her first husband. She then went to Italy, where as she told me herself, she got to marry nine times in succession. All these unions were dissolved after a short duration. In 1848 I met her at Genoa, where she concluded an eighth marriage with the Greek Colonel, Count Theodoki; however, also only for a short time. Her affections were next bestowed on an Irish Captain, for whom she built a beautiful house at Athens. When her latest marriage was again dissolved, she went to the Turkish capital, and from Beyrout to Damascus she got pleased with the camel driver, Sheikh Abdul, and offered him her hand and heart. She was married to him after the Arab fashion, and accompanied him for a whole year on his journeys between Beyrout and Babylon, faithfully fulfilling her duties. She even milked the camels, and when she grew tired of the nomad life she built for herself a charming palace at Damascus, where her latest husband, whenever he came to Damascus, found hospitality for a week. As I had heard nothing of her since 1855, when I met her here dressed as an Arab woman, and, notwithstanding her age, very handsome, I was astonished. Soon after she won the inwohl against her first husband, and was divorced from him, which is probably go to her relatives in England, for she had 20 children as far as I know.

Pennsylvania's Mineral Product.

[From the New York Times.]

From the census report it appears that the mineral product of Pennsylvania in the last census year was $96,300,000, while that of all the other States and Territories amounted to but $76,380,604. The enterprise which has been displayed in developing the mineral resources of Pennsylvania has naturally placed the State beyond the competition, but its result should incite competition rather than envy. Other states have almost inexhaustible mineral products. Houses could be got to rent at half price with gas (a very rare thing), the present State Treasurer would continue in office. He might thus, if this foolish advice were carried out, be kept in office during the remainder of Governor HARTRANFT's term. The personal animosity of this little newspaper gang would thus most signally defeat itself.

The amendment to the Constitution, adopted by the overwhelming vote of the people, contemplated the passage of a bill by this Legislature to carry out their expressed will. The Legislature has performed the duty assigned it, as it was bound to do, and in doing so has framed the bill in accordance with the policy prescribed for the Treasurer's office by past legislation. It has followed the law of 1848 in fixing the time when the Treasurer's term shall commence, thus avoiding all possible disturbance to the financial affairs of the State, and also in providing that the present incumbent shall hold over until his successor is duly qualified. This is the well-settled policy of the State, and the Legislature has acted wisely in not departing from it. The bill is not enacted for the present alone, but for the future as well; and it very properly keeps to the old landmarks, refuses to disturb the routine which has not only worked well, but is thoroughly understood, and simply transfers the election of State Treasurer from the Legislature to the people, leaving all else to go on as heretofore, except in a few minor details.

THE work for this season in the important matter of restocking the lakes and rivers of the country with shad, salmon, and other valuable food fishes has just opened. Seth Green, the eminent pisciculturist, is on his way South to begin the work of artificially hatching the shad. He will start with one of the Southern rivers, probably the Savannah, and come North as the season advances, reaching the Potomac and Hudson about June. Arrangements have been made to secure a large supply of salmon eggs from the Sacramento, 3,000,000 of which will be placed in the Potomac and Susquehanna next fall. The German salmon eggs, which were largely injured by the weather and improper packing in their transportation, will be replaced without cost. The salmon-hatching on the Penobscot will be continued this season on a larger scale than ever, for the purpose of stocking the Eastern rivers.

CAPTAIN S. H. MILLS, of New York, fell into the Delaware river at Lewes, Del., and was, to all appearances, drowned. His body was recovered, coffined, a physician's certificate of death by drowning secured, and the remains started for New York in the hands of Adams Express. At Philadelphia there was a delay of seven hours, the coffin lying at the depot during that time. Arrived at its destination the certificate of death was found to be informal, and it was determined to open the burial case. A peculiar flush on the features of the supposed corpse attracted attention, and led to an examination. The man was found to be alive, although he had been smothered for thirty-five hours. He was removed to a hospital, and is now rapidly recovering. This is the story told by the Philadelphia *Press*, and, if true, exceeds in strangeness some of the most improbable stories of novelists.

GENERAL AND PARTICULAR.

It may not be generally known that the legal par of sterling exchange, in place of being $4 44 for the pound sterling, to which is added 9½ per cent. to bring it to the true par, has been altered by Congress to $4 86 66-100, which saves the addition of the 9½ per cent.

Some gentleman, whose modesty prevents him from allowing his name to be published, has just put $25,000 where he thinks it will do the most good, by giving it to the Massachusetts Institution of Technology.

About every water course, large or small, throughout the East and West, is just now overflowing its banks, the result of heavy rains and the melting snow.

New York has a restaurant where no fish, flesh, fowl, liquors or cigars are served—milk forming the chief feature of the bill of fare. You can get mush and milk, boiled rice, oatmeal and other simple and wholesome things, but nothing rich or highly seasoned.

In a recent debate in the Dominion Parliament, members strongly advocated the imposition of a duty on American grain imported into Canada, as a set-off against that levied on Canadian produce in the United States.

A Michigan man says he has discovered how to so temper steel and even cast iron that it will cut glass like a diamond.

Our railroads are stripping the country of its timber at the rate of 1,000,000 acres per annum; and their demands are rapidly increasing.

There seems to be no end of rivalry among the towns of Tennessee as to which shall profit by the establishment of the grand Vanderbilt University. Our exchanges from that quarter are full of accounts of citizens' petitions and of popular meetings called by mayors to adopt forms of popular claims for the guerdon.

The United States are the only nation with a coin known as the eagle. No coin of the same value is in existence elsewhere. What objection, therefore, can there be to the "American eagle spreading itself?"

It has at last been discovered that the New York *Herald* is good for something besides puffing "Our Commissioner to Cuba." A railway conductor was attacked by high-waymen in New Jersey, one of whom thrust a knife into the side of the examiner of tickets. Just where the would-be assassin's blow was aimed, the fortunate conductor carried a many-times-doubled copy of the great New York journal named above, and thus received the murderous blade and saved a life. Let all who fear assassination carry a number of the *Herald* in their breast pocket. Perhaps a testament or even a pack of cards would answer the purpose as well, though.

Three of the Boston papers are to have new buildings—the *Post*, *Traveller* and *Transcript*.

Danville, Penn., has resurrected some fifty skeletons from seven to eight feet in length, which are supposed to have belonged to the pre-Indian race of mound-builders.

The government has fully received the amount of defalcations committed by collectors of customs during the year 1871-72 through their bondsmen.

On appeal to the Circuit Court, it has been decided in California, by Judge Sawyer, that a creditor of a bankrupt corporation can share co-ordinately with other creditors in the distribution of the estate, though such creditor may at the same time be a stockholder in that corporation.

The New York correspondent of the Boston *Journal* writes that for years trade in Gotham has not been as dull as it is this season. There is absolutely no money to be had except at ruinous rates. Everything is at a stand still and is a month in arrears.

Spiritism is the latest ism, and described to be a decided improvement on Spiritualism. It is a modern version of the ancient theory of metempsychosis, according to which souls of toughness and durability are repaired and used again.

The Michigan Legislature has passed a bill providing for a committee to revise the Constitution, two of whom are to be appointed from each Congressional district, making eighteen in all.

An inexplicable phenomenon was reported the other day by the crew of a brig arriving at New York from Trinidad. In mid-ocean a meteor flashed across the heavens directly above the stern of the vessel. It was followed by a streak of light which gradually resolved itself into the letters "C. W."

A double-headed baby is reported to have been born at Ithaca, N. Y., with the astonishing peculiarity of having in a single body two hearts, four lungs, and all its other organs duplicated in like manner.

The Society of the Sixth Army Corps, Army of the Potomac, will hold its sixth annual reunion at the Temple of Music, corner of Orange and Center streets, New Haven, Conn., on Wednesday, 14th of May.

San Francisco papers give the average Caucasian immigration to that State at 300 per week, many of whom are en route for Oregon. There is, it seems, an immense body of good farming land in that State which is still unoccupied, and may be had at reasonable rates.

Europe has the promise of a fine crop next harvest. The large average rain fall of the last few months is a favorable augury.

Holt County, Missouri, is trying a new plan. It has dancing six times a week, and tolerates a sermon semi-annually. In spite of this, however, there is no very decided moral awakening of the people.

Sir John Lubbock's wasp is dead. This is the insect Sir John brought from the Pyrenees, and which tamed completely that it would sit on his finger, and eat sugar without ever putting down its "hot foot."

The New Orleans *Picayune* says that there is plenty of produce to move from New Orleans this summer, and a much larger amount of tonnage than that now in sight is imperatively demanded.

The Chicago public library is constantly increasing in interest, additions being constantly made to its shelves.

A meeting of petroleum dealers is in session in New York, for the purpose of obtaining a code of rules for the government of their business transactions.

It is generally believed now by meteorologists, that we are to have a cycle of very hot summers. An eminent New York sanitarian in the Health Department has also issued a report suggesting measures during the coming summer which shall prevent the fatal effects of the expected heat.

Prof. Agassiz asserts that "all living beings, whatever their diversity of form, have grown up from eggs which are at first all precisely similar. Christians can therefore, in this way, easily eventually change these beings into widely differing animals." This explains where everything comes from except eggs.

A new outlet for the grain of the West is proposed in the improvement of the Kankakee or Iroquois rivers, in Illinois, and their connection with the Wabash and Erie Canal by means of a short canal extending from Attica to Logansport, Indiana, to the navigable waters of one or the other of those streams.

Serious irregularities in the Land Department in the State of Michigan are reported to have been discovered, involving the integrity of ex-Commissioner Edmonds.

Now winter's rains and rains are over,
And all the season of snows and sins,
The days dividing lover and lover,
The light that loses, the night that wins;
And time remembered is grief forgotten,
And frosts are slain and flowers begotten,
And in green underwood and cover,
Blossom by blossom the spring begins.

A New York physiologist is at work on a pamphlet in which he proposes to prove that hydrophobia is nothing but "emotional insanity," and should be respected as such.

The estimated receipts from internal revenue for the current fiscal year, were $75,000,000. The receipts to April 1 had been $53,000,000, with three months of heavy collections to follow.

A petrified forest has been found by English tourists on the western portion of the Lybian desert, on the caravan route to the Fatoom. In this vicinity the whole desert is littered with petrified wood, from pieces the size of one's finger to pieces of large branches and whole trunks of trees. This forest is said to be a continuation of the well-known petrified forest of the Abbasieh desert to the east of Cairo, but far superior to the latter in the size and perfectness of the trees.

Copper two cent pieces will become precious keepsakes in the remote future. The new coinage act abolished that coin, and no more will be put in circulation.

The freedmen advance daily. A little darkey in Dubuque, Alabama, recently put a bone compound in a sack, and sold him for old iron, obtaining forty-five cents by the transaction.

The accretions of mud at the Southwest pass, and at the mouth of the Mississippi river, have been so large, during the past season, as to form a complete bar across that outlet, to the serious obstruction of navigation. At the latest advices there were nearly fifty vessels, some of them having less than six-teen feet draught, awaiting ingress or egress.

During the last session of the Legislature of this State all laws imposing State taxes "upon horses, mules and neat cattle" were repealed, the repeal, however, not to take effect until the next meeting of the Board of Revenue Commissioners of the Commonwealth.

An IMMENSE real estate purchase, similar to that of Samana Bay, has just been concluded in Europe by the city of Parga, situated on the Adriatic, midway between Corfu and the Greek mainland, with its territory, double harbor, fort and 4,000 inhabitants, has been sold to Christaki Zographas, a Greek banker, for the sum of $10,000 piasters. This individual is a singular illustration of the way in which some people gain influence and fortune. By birth an Albanian, Zographas was originally a butcher, who rose by his own energy and intelligence to the position of a Rothschild. Like all his co-religionists he is a Greek Orthodox faith, he puts his wealth to excellent use. He not only contributes hundreds to every new school or church, but has a large number of young men educated at Athens and elsewhere at his own expense.

A DECISION rendered by the Supreme Court of the United States, last week, recalls an interesting incident connected with the close of the rebellion. When it became evident that Richmond must soon surrender, the Common Council of that city ordered that all the liquor in the city be destroyed, lest the fall of the rebel capital should be celebrated by the Federal troops with a grand spree accompanied by general lawlessness and violence. The order was carried into effect by the citizens. Among the sufferers was one Smith, who subsequently brought an action against the city to recover the value of the property destroyed, and secured a verdict for $2,852. The case was appealed, and now the Supreme Court has confirmed the judgement; so reconstructed Richmond must pay for the trespasses of rebellious Richmond.

SAWARD'S *Coal Trade Circular* administers a decidedly discouraging dose of cold comfort to consumers of coal in the Eastern cities, in the following paragraph:

Those dealers back in the country, on the lines of the various railroads leading from the seaboard, that they occur simultaneously with any unusual financial distress. In other lands, the sight of war wakens deep religious feeling, and the restoration of peace enriches the church through votive offerings. Here, the loss of the almighty dollar calls men to serious thoughts, and turns their care to something higher than dross.

It is a suggestive circumstance that, with perhaps three exceptions—the United States, Germany and Great Britain—all the civilized countries are steadily increasing their debts. The greater portion of them have been created within the memory of the present generation; the great majority of them are rising still with a rapidity which is adding annually hundreds of millions to the national liabilities of the world.

Jonathan Gause, a veteran teacher, died in Bradford township, Chester county, on Wednesday last, at the age of eighty-seven years.

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